

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Week of March 21th, 2021

Sermon: "The Good Master of the Vineyard"

Text: Matthew 20:1-16

SUMMARY

In the parable of the laborers in the vineyard, Jesus shows us that comparison leads to assumptions and grumbling against God. God, however, is a good master who always keeps his promises, shown in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus himself, and has the right to do with his creation as he sees fit.

FOR FAMILIES

Does it make you angry when your friend or sibling gets something you do not? Why do you think this is?

What are some of the things that make you upset if you cannot have them? Are these things good or bad things?

Why do you think you deserve the same things as someone else? What does God say we deserve in the Bible?

Jesus gives the greatest gift none of us deserve. How does this gift help you trust that God is good?

Since God made everything, he gets to decide the rules. This is good news, however, because he is good and kind. How has God been kind to you in your life?

FOR GROUPS

The laborers hired first assume that the master owes them more money than those hired later. What do you tend to assume God owes you in life? What makes you jealous? Why do you assume God owes you these things?

Often the things we are jealous of are good gifts from God. How can we help ourselves rightly desire good gifts while making sure we do not assume God owes us something?

When we don't get what we assume we should, we complain, like the workers. What does your complaining usually look like (anger, distrust, silence, etc)? How does God instruct us to handle disappointment or complaints Biblically?

God is a good master who does keep his promises. How does the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus keep God's promises? How does this affect the way we trust God?

How does the truth that God can do what he wants with his creation encourage us? Is it sometimes not encouraging? How does Jesus speak to this doubt?