THE PARABLE OF THE WORKERS IN THE VINEYARD

Matthew 20:1–16

Key Verse: 20:16

1. What had Jesus said to encourage his followers? (19:28,29) What was the last thing he said, and why? (19:30)
2. How did Jesus introduce his next parable? (1a) Early in the morning, what did the landowner do? (1b,2) What did he do at nine in the morning? (3–5a) Later in the day? (5b–7) What do these things show us about this landowner?
3. What surprising happened in the evening? (8,9) What did the workers hired first expect? (10) What did they say, and why? (11,12) Who might these first workers represent?
4. What did the landowner say to one of them? (13–15) What do his words teach us about God and his kingdom? How can we share God’s heart?
5. Read verse 16. In light of Jesus’ parable, what do these words mean? What do they tell us about God’s kingdom? How can we be “first” there?