



## #5 Scandalous Grace

### The Proverb

Matthew 19:30 But many who are first will be last, and many who are last will be first.

### The Parable

Matthew 20:1 "For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire men to work in his vineyard. <sup>2</sup>He agreed to pay them a denarius for the day and sent them into his vineyard.

Matthew 20:3 "About the third hour he went out and saw others standing in the marketplace doing nothing. <sup>4</sup>He told them, 'You also go and work in my vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' <sup>5</sup>So they went. "He went out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour and did the same thing. <sup>6</sup>About the eleventh hour he went out and found still others standing around. He asked them, 'Why have you been standing here all day long doing nothing?'

Matthew 20:7 "Because no one has hired us,' they answered. "He said to them, 'You also go and work in my vineyard.'

Matthew 20:8 "When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, 'Call the workers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last ones hired and going on to the first.'

Matthew 20:9 "The workers who were hired about the eleventh hour came and each received a denarius. <sup>10</sup>So when those came who were hired first, they expected to receive more. But each one of them also received a denarius. <sup>11</sup>When they received it, they began to grumble against the landowner. <sup>12</sup>'These men who were hired last worked only one hour,' they said, 'and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the work and the heat of the day.'

Matthew 20:13 "But he answered one of them, 'Friend, I am not being unfair to you. Didn't you agree to work for a denarius?' <sup>14</sup>'Take your pay and go. I want to give the man who was hired last the same as I gave you. <sup>15</sup>Don't I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?'

Matthew 20:16 "So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

### The Point

**All who come into Christ's Kingdom  
will receive the same full and equal reward,  
regardless of how long they served Christ,  
because the reward is not given based on the performance  
of the servants,  
but based on the gracious generosity of the King!**

## The Principles

1. God initiates salvation **SOVEREIGNLY**
2. God is the One Who **ESTABLISHES THE TERMS**
3. God is continually **CALLING** people into His Kingdom
4. God redeems those who are **WILLING**
5. God is particularly **COMPASSIONATE** to those who have no resources
6. All who were chosen worked in the **VINEYARD**
7. God gives all of us more than we **DESERVE**
8. There's no place for **JEALOUSY** in God's kingdom

"Living by grace instead of by works means you are free from the performance treadmill. It means God has already given you an A when you deserved an F; He has already given you a full day's pay even though you may have worked only one hour. It means you don't have to perform certain spiritual disciplines to earn God's approval. Jesus Christ has already done that for you. You are loved and accepted by God through the merit of Jesus, and you are blessed by God through the merit of Jesus."  
*Jerry Bridges in Transforming Grace*

Hello My Name is **GRACED!**

### Bible Reading Plan

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sun.: Acts 7  | <input type="checkbox"/> Mon.: Acts 8    | <input type="checkbox"/> Tues.: Acts 9 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wed.: Acts 10 | <input type="checkbox"/> Thurs.: Acts 11 | <input type="checkbox"/> Fri.: Acts 12 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sat.: Acts 13 | <input type="checkbox"/> Sun.: Acts 14   |  |

Steve Benninger, Lead Pastor  
New Life Church, Gahanna/ Jan. 30 & 31, 2010