

Week 24

March 1, 2009

**Is This Really Fair?**  
The Generous Landowner  
Matthew 20:1-16

**More about the Landowner**

- The Farmer who sows the message (13:1-23)
- The Judge over good seed and bad (13:24-30)
- The Planter of mustard seed (13:31-32)
- The Vineyard Keeper (21:33-46)
- The Giver of talents (25:14-30)

**The landowner recruits workers**

- early in the morning
- at the third hour
- at the sixth hour
- at the ninth hour
- at the eleventh hour

**The deal**

- one denarius for the day
- whatever is right

**Time to be paid**

- those hired late
- those hired early
- The landowner's response

**The target audience**

**The truth about the kingdom**

- it's not \_\_\_\_\_
- It is \_\_\_\_\_
- The \_\_\_\_\_ will be \_\_\_\_\_.

**Why is this hard for some to accept?**

1. Are we stuck on the notion of *earning*?
2. Are we stuck on the notion of *fairness*?
3. Are we *jealous* of the latecomers' pay?
4. Are we jealous of the latecomers' *previous life*?
5. Do we *regret* our day spent in labor?
6. Do we simply *want* more?

7. Do we question *God's right* to decide?
8. Do we wish for a more concrete and *predictable system*?
9. Is this one more control issue?
10. What isn't a control issue?

**At the heart of the matter**

- Understanding God's heart
- Growing a God-like heart
- Enjoying the River of Lavish Grace

**Is this really fair?**