

# TIMELESS TEACHING for TURBULENT TIMES

Message Notes for October 18, 2020

In your opinion what is fair? Unfair?

*Matthew 20:1-16 "For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard. 2 He agreed to pay them a denarius for the day and sent them into his vineyard. 3 "About nine in the morning he went out and saw others standing in the marketplace doing nothing. 4 He told them, 'You also go and work in my vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' 5 So they went. "He went out again about noon and about three in the afternoon and did the same thing. 6 About five in the afternoon he went out and found still others standing around. He asked them, 'Why have you been standing here all day long doing nothing?' 7 " 'Because no one has hired us,' they answered. "He said to them, 'You also go and work in my vineyard.' 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.' 9 "The workers who were hired about five in the afternoon came and each received a denarius. 10 So when those came who were hired first, they expected to receive more. But each one of them also received a denarius. 11 When they received it, they began to grumble against the landowner. 12 'These 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.' 13 "But he answered one of them, 'I am not being unfair to you, friend. Didn't you agree to work for a denarius? 14 Take your pay and go. I want*

*to give the one who was hired last the same as I gave you. 15 Don't I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?' 16 "So the last will be first, and the first will be last."*

Why would generosity bother me?

- A) I'm \_\_\_\_\_ more because I \_\_\_\_\_ more.
- B) I'm \_\_\_\_\_ because he was \_\_\_\_\_.

Three truths about generosity:

1. **We will miss God's \_\_\_\_\_ when our hearts are filled with \_\_\_\_\_.**
  - a. We believe we have earned more of God's goodness.
  - b. We get upset when "undeserving people" receive God's grace.
  - c. It's hard to celebrate when we feel slighted.
2. **Generosity comes from the heart of the \_\_\_\_\_ not the actions of the \_\_\_\_\_.**
3. **The equalizer in God's kingdom is \_\_\_\_\_ not \_\_\_\_\_.**

The impact of generosity:

1. **Generosity overcomes \_\_\_\_\_.**
  - 1 Peter 3:8 Finally, all of you, be like-minded, be sympathetic, love one another, be compassionate and humble. 9 Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult. On the contrary, repay evil with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing.
2. **A recipient of generosity becomes a \_\_\_\_\_ of generosity.**
  - 2 Corinthians 9:11 You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.