

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. Is this parable about rewards or grace, and why?
2. Why do you suppose God did not stipulate a wage for those who came later in the day?
3. What motive dictated the murmuring of those who came first?
4. What is the difference between reward, recompense, and wages?
5. Are you ever jealous of what God has given to another person?
6. To what “service” are we called to, and what is our vineyard?
7. Why is God a God of equality?

SUMMARY:

If we wish to live in a right relationship with God we must first be reconciled to Him through the blood of Jesus Christ and then continually look to the Holy Spirit for His leading in our life. [\[SoF:9\]](#) He will certainly grant us a particular place in His harvest field. Our Father’s business ought to truly become our business. Through this sort of relationship comes the wonderful fellowship with God that is so sweet and is its own richest reward.

There may be physical blessings also. We can know that whatever comes will be for our ultimate good, for God has said: “Whatsoever is right I will give you.” We must remember that God gives His very best to those who leave the choice to Him.

NOTES:

[\[SoF:9\]](#) We believe in the baptism of the Holy Spirit, by Whose indwelling the believer is empowered to live a Godly life in spiritual unity with Christ. [\[SoF:15\]](#) We believe that the Great Commission of our Lord Jesus Christ is an invitation for everyone to live a life of abandonment to Him, Who loved us and gave Himself for us - surrendering His personal ambitions and possessions in an unreserved committal to take the proclamation of the Gospel throughout “all the world to every creature”.

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Bible Lesson #2

October 9, 2022

Fourth Quarter

THE KING’S CALL TO SERVICE [\[SoF:15\]](#)

LESSON TEXT: *Matthew 20:1-16*

LESSON SETTING: While traveling to Jerusalem before Christ told His disciples of His betrayal.

TIME: About 33 A.D.

I. THE CALL. Matthew 20:1-7

- A. Servants of the Lord (vs. 1) Matthew 9:37-38; Mark 2:3
John 1:41-42
- B. In His Vineyard (vs. 2) Isaiah 5:7; Matthew 21:28, 33
- C. Service Required (vs. 2) Luke 10:36-37; Galatians 6:2, 10

II. COMPENSATION RECEIVED. Matthew 20:8-10

- A. Reward (vs. 8) Daniel 12:3; Matthew 10:42
- B. Recompense (vs. 8) Isaiah 35:4; Luke 14:13-14; Hebrews 10:35
- C. Wages (vs. 9) John 4:35-36

III. THE COMPLAINT. Matthew 20:11-16

- A. Murmuring (vs. 11) Proverbs 19:3; 1 Corinthians 10:10
- B. An Apparent Injustice (vs. 12) Jeremiah 12:1; Ezekiel 18:25
Romans 9:14
- C. Divine Equity (vs. 13) Matthew 16:27; 2 Corinthians 5:10
1 Peter 1:17; Revelation 22:12

GOLDEN TEXT: *GO YE ALSO INTO THE VINEYARD, AND WHATSOEVER IS RIGHT I WILL GIVE YOU.* Matthew 20:4

NEXT SUNDAY'S LESSON: Mark 10:35-45

SUPPLEMENTAL REFERENCES: Genesis 13:5-18;
Matthew 20:17-28;
Luke 18:31-34; John 12:20-33;
Philippians 2:1-11

QUARTERLY THEME: Christ - King and Savior

TOPIC: THE KING DEFINES GREATNESS

INTRODUCTION:

How many who desire the name of greatness are willing to pay the price? Man's definition of greatness differs from God's as night differs from day. Man feels greatness brings with it esteem, respect, wealth and power. A true definition of greatness includes none of these, but rather a desire to be of service to others, a willingness to be spent for others and a lack of self-esteem.

When James and John requested what they felt was a badge of greatness, Jesus told them they did not know what they asked for. The fact that the ten felt much displeased indicated their attitudes also left much to be desired. They perhaps secretly wished the position for themselves. Rather than lower Himself to their arguments, Jesus gave a definition of greatness that can belong to any who will pay the price. This is not man's greatness, but God's.

These disciples, as is noted in later Scriptures, went on to be great. They learned true humility and achieved the greatness that brings joy to the heart of God. Christ's words to them and to us are, "And whosoever of you will be the chiefest, shall be the servant of all."

CENTRAL TRUTH: Service to Christ and to others is the true measure of greatness.

GOLDEN TEXT: *FOR EVEN THE SON OF MAN CAME NOT TO BE MINISTERED UNTO, BUT TO MINISTER, AND TO GIVE HIS LIFE A RANSOM FOR MANY.*
Mark 10:45

It ought to really make man humble to consider the purposes and motives in the life of Jesus. He came truly to serve and not to be served. He came to a people who were to reject, scourge, mock and finally crucify Him. Yet He constantly kept in mind the purpose for which He came. Only as we examine His acts, His answers to questions, and His compassion for the lost can we see the great love God has for sinful man. Only through these actions can we see how serious sin is and how much God desires to have the fellowship of man. This fellowship can only be on one basis, however, and that is a regeneration through the blood of Christ and a continuing obedience to God's Word. Then as Christ came to minister or to serve, so shall His redeemed ones serve.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF October 10 – 16

- M. *The King Defines Greatness. Mark 10:35-45
- T. The King Declares His Purpose. Luke 4:14-24
- W. The King Serves a Paralytic. Luke 5:17-26
- T. The King Serves the Hungry. Luke 9:10-17
- F. The King's Humble Servants. James 4:7-17
- S. The King's Vigilant Servants. 1 Peter 5:7-14
- S. The King's Servants Admonished. 2 Peter 1:5-16

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