



Sermon Discussion Questions

"What Are You Expecting For Christmas?"

Matthew 20:1 - 16

December 20, 2015

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Opener:

Which roles do you believe require the hardest work: (a) Mothers of young children? (b) Construction workers? (c) Salespersons? (d) School teachers? (e) Pastors? Why?

Questions:

1. What are your thoughts as to why this parable is told at this point in the gospel of Matthew? Refer to 19:30, 20:16 and 20:17-19.
2. What are some of the similarities and differences between the groups of workers?
3. Why do you think identical wages are given to both the first and the last workers? Who is discontented and why (vv 10-12)?
4. What do you make of the landowners practice – is it gracious or unfair, or both? Why?

Practical Application:

5. Imagine that you are one of the people in the parable. Whom do you identify with most naturally and why?
6. What persons receive any "less" of God: those that receive God at the end of their lives, or those that have "known" God from an early age?
7. As a group, reread aloud vv 15-16. How might God be guiding you to take an action – large or small – relating to others in your life this week?