

# MORE THAN THE MESSAGE

(FOR PERSONAL, GROUP OR FAMILY STUDY)



*“Outrageous! Equal Generosity” (9/19-20/2020)*

*(Matthew 20:1-16)*

1. Think of an instance in which someone would say, “It’s not fair!” What is it? Why would it be considered unfair? Would YOU personally believe it to be fair or unfair? Why or why not?
2. Read Matthew 20:1-16.
  - a. What is one thing that stands out to you? Why?
  - b. Would you side with the owner of the vineyard or the laborers? Why?
  - c. Does the fact that Jesus talks about “laborers” and “pay” in this story make this story so “outrageous”? Why or why not?
3. Jesus ends this story with a proverbial saying: “So the last will be first, and the first last.” This actually is a “bookend” to Matthew 19:30. Read Matthew 19:16-30 and answer the following questions:
  - a. What was the rich man’s problem?
  - b. What was the disciples’ problem?
  - c. Verse 30 *reverses* Matthew 20:16. Why do you think this is?
  - d. How does this story tie into Matthew 20:1-16?
4. How does Deuteronomy 7:6-8, Romans 3:23-24 and Ephesians 2:8-10 speak to the theme of “equal generosity”?
5. What is one thing God has shown you today through this study? What is one thing you can specifically do in response?