

THE UNDESERVED GOODNESS OF GOD

Text Matthew 20:1-16

The point of this parable is not to encourage us to w_____ as long as possible to accept Christ so that we don't miss out on any fun

The point of this parable is to t_____ us about God's generous grace, and how it is at work in our lives, and how we can get in on it as soon, and as often, as possible.

Workers who really wanted to work would stick around the marketplace and wait for another chance.

And when Jesus said, "*He agreed to pay them a denarius for the day and sent them into his vineyard...*" this made sense to them, because a denarius was the going wage for a d_____ work. He didn't promise them a full day's pay, but he promised them a fair wage.

1. Open your eyes to the generosity of God. Ref: 1 John 4:19 NKJV; Romans 5:8 NKJV

I want you to notice that, in this story, everybody w_____.

When it comes to your relationship with God, if you think you're going to operate on a 50/50, give-and-take, tit-for-tat, fair-pay-for-honest-work kind of arrangement, you'll never experience the grace of God.

What I'm hoping that you'll hang on to today is the idea that our God is a generous God. Ref: Ps 103; Ps 145; Luke 6:35 (Read This Week)

I want you to realize that, in our relationship with God, there are many times when, at the end of the day so to speak, we receive a day's pay for a day's work, because God is never less than f_____

If you want to live in the grace of God you've got to believe in the generosity of God. Our God is generous. A _____ it.

2. Make yourself available for his blessings.

I don't know who it was who first said, "Ninety percent of success is just showing up," but it's certainly true in the workplace. It's also true in the s_____ life. God can only bless those who show up

If you want to experience the fullness of God's generous grace, you've got to show up. He can't bless you when you're hiding out at home. You've got to be available. Do you know what that means? It means that you can't g_____ up.

3. Learn to share the joy of others.

Part of living in God's grace is allowing others to live in God's grace.

The reality is that you have received more grace than you've acknowledged, and while your blessings may be d_____ from others, they're not less than others.

One of the key words to living in God's grace is the word *OPEN*

Open your _____, your _____, your _____

Living in God's grace is not a c_____, it's a celebration. Open yourself up to it.