

Small Group Study Guide, Week of June 14, 2026

Matthew 20:1-16, "The Laborers...", Pastor Tim Cho

Ice Breaker: What kind(s) of fieldwork have you done in your life? What lessons did you take away?

Dig:

1. For context, read Matthew 19:18-30. What questions were the disciples grappling with when Jesus tells this parable? Who are the characters in the parable?
2. Why are identical wages given to both early and late add-on workers? Who is discontent in this parable? Why? What explanation does Jesus offer? Does the arrangement strike you as fair? Why or why not?

Apply:

3. Is there a place for the concept of reward in Christian service? If so, what is it?
4. How does the principle of this parable apply to Jews and Gentiles? Would you recommend that people wait until just before they die to come to Christ, so they don't have to work so hard or give up so much? Why or why not?

Adapted from Serendipity Bible (1988), This Morning with God (1978), Search the Scriptures (1978)