



Sermon Discussion Guide

CORE VALUES

RENEWING GRACE – COMMUNITY – MISSION

Warm-Up Question:

Define what “renewing” means. What are some things in your life that would benefit from being “renewed”?

READ: Matthew 19:30, 20:1-16

- How might you relate with the frustration of the workers that worked all day and received the same as those that worked much less?
- Read the older son’s response when his prodigal brother came home in Luke 28:15-20. How was his reaction similar to the workers in this parable?
- What does it mean to “begrudge” the generosity of God in v. 15? Why and in what situations might you begrudge grace being given to you or someone else?
- What is this parable teaching us in terms of how much we have “worked” to earn God’s love and favor and eternal life?
- Do you ever tend to believe that God gives or removes his blessing to you because of how you have “worked” for him? What does this parable teach us about how God wants to give to us, whether our salvation or ongoing blessing?
- Read each of the verses below and discuss what it teaches us about grace.
 - Acts 17:24-25
 - Romans 6:23; 9:16, 21
 - Ephesians 2:8-9
 - 1 Corinthians 4:7
 - Romans 5:20
- Share how you personally connect with your need for God’s generosity/grace. In what ways are you thankful for it?
 - How do you want grace to change you? How do you want to live more in light of God’s abundant grace in your life? (Ex. Matt. 19:30)

What is your major takeaway from this passage and sermon?

"Blessings at times come to us through our labors and at times without our labors, but never because of our labors; for God always gives them because of His grace."

— Martin Luther

Prayer Request:

- Praise God for his generosity and grace
- Confess areas of need for God’s renewing grace
- Ask for God’s grace for specific areas of need

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What is your major takeaway from this passage and sermon?

SCRIPTURES USED

Matt. 19:30 But many who are first will be last, and the last first.

Matt. 20:1 “For the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. **2** After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. **3** And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, **4** and to them he said, ‘You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you.’ **5** So they went. Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same. **6** And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing. And he said to them, ‘Why do you stand here idle all day?’ **7** They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You go into the vineyard too.’ **8** And when evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, ‘Call the laborers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last, up to the first.’ **9** And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius. **10** Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more, but each of them also received a denarius. **11** And on receiving it they grumbled at the master of the house, **12** saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ **13** But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius? **14** Take what belongs to you and go. I choose to give to this last worker as I give to you. **15** Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?’ **16** So the last will be first, and the first last.”

Luke 24:15 While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with them. **16** But their eyes were kept from recognizing him. **17** And he said to them, “**What is this conversation that you are holding with each other as you walk?**” And they stood still, looking sad. **18** Then one of them, named Cleopas, answered him, “Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?” **19** And he said to them, “**What things?**” And they said to him, “Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, a man who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, **20** and how our chief priests and rulers delivered him up to be condemned to death, and crucified him.”

Acts 17:24 The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, **25** nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything.

Rom. 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Rom. 9:16 So then it depends not on human will or exertion, but on God, who has mercy.

Rom. 9:21 Has the potter no right over the clay, to make out of the same lump one vessel for honorable use and another for dishonorable use?

Eph. 2:8 For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, **9** not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

1Cor. 4:7 For who sees anything different in you? What do you have that you did not receive? If then you received it, why do you boast as if you did not receive it?

Rom. 5:20 Now the law came in to increase the trespass, but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more,