



## Series title: The Kingdom of God

### Session title: The generous employer

The Landowner hires different people all through the day – some barely start working before the day ended. When paid, the Landowner starts with the ones that worked least. Why would He start with them? He's creating the problem because if He'd paid off the longest workers first, they'd have gone on their way, and no one would have been upset? God is making a point!

God loves giving to people who don't deserve it and He loves being generous. God asks us to face our selfishness and celebrate instead His generosity. He wants us provoked and transformed. KOG is not about fairness – God is wonderfully generous to everyone and unfair in that respect! He will be this way for people we don't think deserve it! We need to learn to love His kindness and grace to others!

'Bearing the burden in the heat of the day' is a rabbinic expression that speaks of the Jewish/Gentile relationship. Jews were Torah observant people so that we Gentiles could understand God. Jews carried the extra weight [of many laws and commandments] so we might benefit.

This parable shows the 5pm workers are Gentiles. Jesus is telling a Jewish audience about the generous blessing of God on Gentiles as well as on Jews. God's reward for their work is that everyone is blessed, everyone has enough – it's not about winning and losing, it's about celebrating everyone being blessed.

#### Talk it through together

- When we search our hearts do we find ourselves hoping for the blessing on others who have put less in?
- Pray for God to enlarge our hearts and our capacity to enjoy seeing God's blessing and generosity in others

#### Resources

**Listen to:**  
Bema Episode 123  
**Read through:**

Matthew 20:1-16

**Watch:**