

# Together @ Home

Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> September

Here are some activities you could do together as a family. Begin with the story and then do as many or as few as you like, in any order.



## Bible Passage

Today we will be exploring together Jesus' parable of the Workers in the Vineyard.

You can find it in your Bible in:

**Matthew 20:1-16**

Read the story together – choose a Bible translation or children's story version which best suits your family.



## A prayer to say together

Dear God,

We know that if we always got what we considered to be "fair" that none of us would deserve Your goodness.

Thank you for being a generous God who offers love to everyone regardless of what they've done to deserve it.

Help us to notice and give thanks for Your generosity that we see all around us--in creation and in our relationships with our family and friends and with You.

Help us to not only be glad for the good fortune and generosity of others, but also to be generous in the way we treat people around us.

Amen

## Discussion

### Questions for adults to ask children

*In Jesus' story about the workers in the vineyard, how much did the landowner tell the first workers he would pay them?*

1 one silver coin

*At the end of the day, all the workers got the same amount of money. What was unusual about this?*

Some workers had worked all day, while others had only worked a short time.

*What does this story tell us about God's generosity?*

### A question for children to ask adults

*What examples of God's generosity can you see in your life?*

## Family Activity 1

You will need: course sand, a magnifying glass (there is a magnifying feature on most smartphones)

Spread out spoonfuls of sand and use a magnifying glass to see how many individual grains of sand you can count. As you count each grain, name a way that God has been generous to you or a way that you can show generosity to others.



## Family Activity 2

*Play a week-long game of Generosity Tag.*

You will need: postcard size piece of paper, CD case or sandwich size Ziploc bag.

Write "Tag - You're It!" on a piece of paper and place in CD case or bag. Give it to the person with the closest birthday. The person with the paper must complete a random act of generosity (like making another family member's bed, some chore without being asked, etc.) and leave the paper at the scene. Whoever has the case is tagged and must do something generous for someone else.



## A verse to remember

1 Timothy 6:18

"Tell them to use their money to do good. They should be rich in good works and generous to those in need, always being ready to share with others."

To learn this verse together, you could come up with some actions to help you remember it or decorate the verse on a piece of paper and put it up somewhere to remind you of it through the week. For an activity related to the verse, make a Generosity Wreath (see below).

### Active Prayer

God's generosity to us is overflowing. Use this active prayer to think about ways your generosity can overflow toward others.

1. Gather supplies: A 2-ounce paper cup for each person and a bag of cotton balls
2. Have each person take an empty paper cup and sit together in a circle. Place a pile of cotton balls within reach of everyone.
3. Imagine your cup overflowing with water. That is how generous God is. God often gives much more than we need--His generosity is poured out on us every single day. We can never give as much as God gives, but our generosity can overflow to those around us when we share our possessions, our time, our talents, and even our prayers.
4. Take turns naming places you go (school, home, ball field, park, store, etc.) and encourage each person to think of some way to show generosity to others in that place. For each way named, place a cotton ball in the cup.
5. After several rounds, you may notice that your cups are overflowing!
6. Now take time to pray, asking God to help you do the generous things you thought of. Overflowing generosity isn't easy, but we know because of God's generosity, we can be generous, too!

### Generosity Wreath

Work together to make a generosity wreath, and challenge one another to be generous.

1. Read 1 Timothy 6:18 together.
2. Discuss some ways you can put the commands of 1 Timothy 6:18 into action this week by doing good and sharing with others.
3. Have each family member trace his or her hand several times onto different colors of construction paper.
4. Cut the center out of a paper plate to make a ring.
5. When a family member does something generous, write it on his or her handprint and glue it onto the wreath.

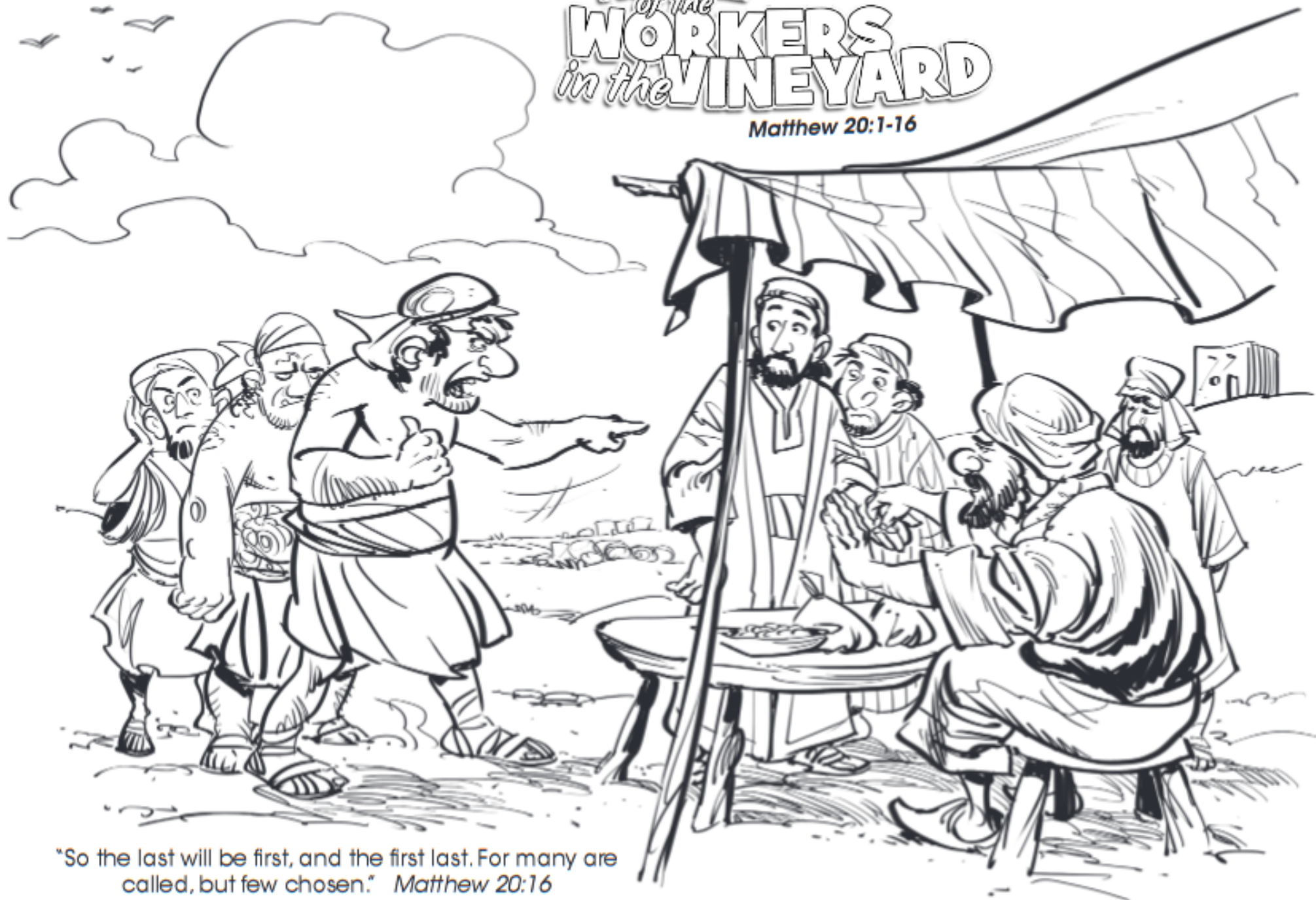


When the wreath is full, reward your family with a favorite dessert and call it a "generousitreat."



# PARABLE of the WORKERS in the VINEYARD

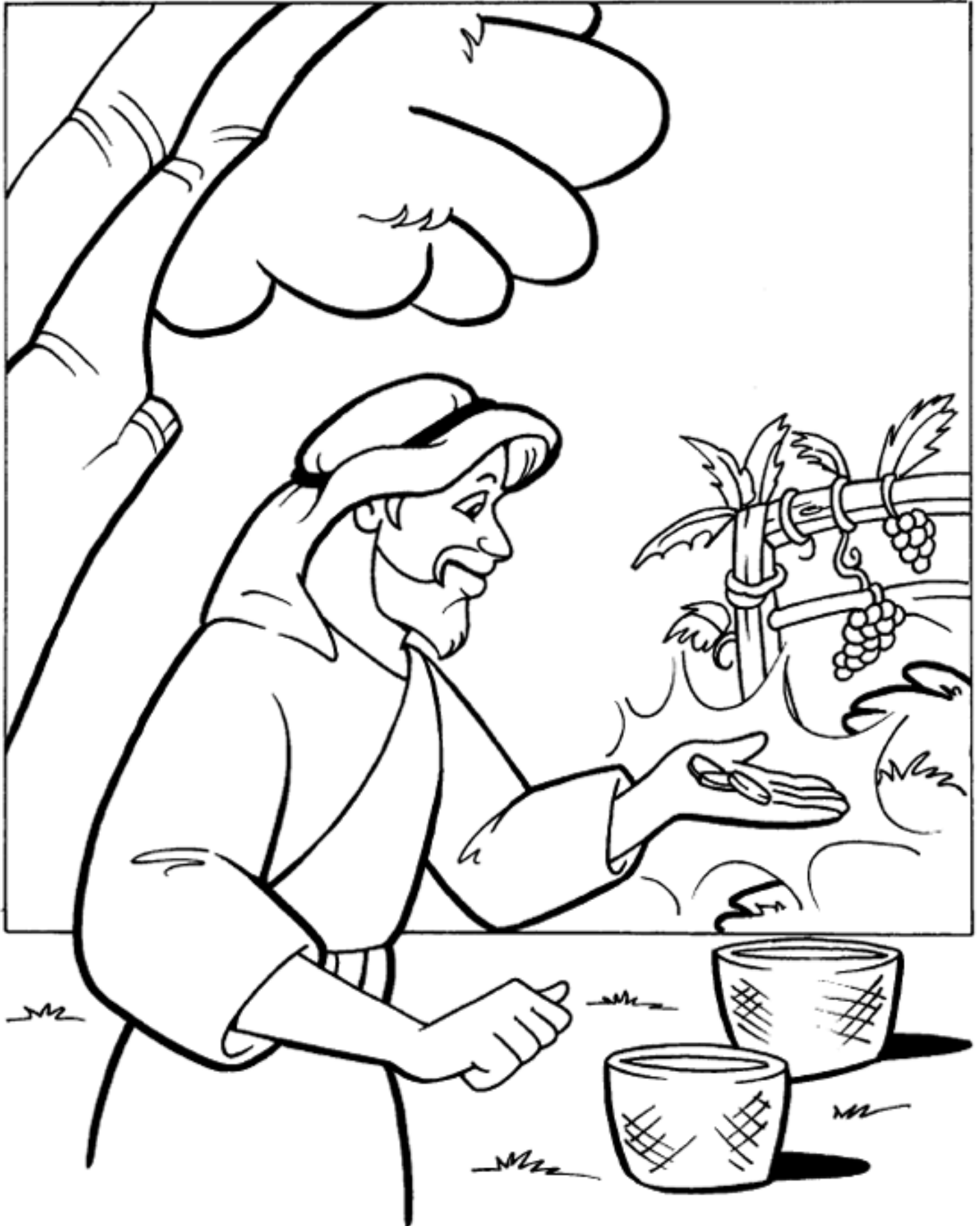
Matthew 20:1-16



"So the last will be first, and the first last. For many are called, but few chosen." Matthew 20:16

# Coloring Page

## PARABLE OF THE WORKERS IN THE VINEYARD (MATTHEW 20:1-16)





# Word Search Puzzle

D	V	O	M	O	N	E	Y	Q	K	J	F	E	Q	L
R	Y	H	Q	P	G	Y	Y	V	V	D	B	S	K	P
E	U	G	V	H	E	H	E	A	V	E	N	U	I	H
C	S	S	Z	Q	N	M	J	N	R	U	N	N	N	O
E	A	V	I	N	E	Y	A	R	D	R	S	F	G	U
I	M	I	D	T	R	I	Z	V	E	B	M	A	D	R
V	W	R	S	X	O	U	F	N	P	D	T	I	O	V
E	O	S	P	M	U	Q	W	M	E	E	B	R	M	C
D	R	D	G	B	S	O	K	R	R	T	Q	E	R	A
E	K	R	Y	P	D	M	I	T	H	V	L	U	S	W
H	E	Y	V	N	P	H	E	G	E	B	Q	E	A	A
O	R	C	A	V	S	Y	I	C	M	W	G	P	K	L
N	S	L	H	N	Q	R	G	U	B	A	R	W	J	K
U	H	G	S	Z	L	W	R	U	W	H	I	F	E	G
G	B	Z	Y	G	D	G	T	X	R	E	V	Q	B	N

MONEY  
LANDOWNER  
WAGES

HOURLY  
HEAVEN  
HIRED

EQUAL  
GRUMBLE  
UNFAIR

WORKERS  
KINGDOM  
RIGHT

VINEYARD  
GENEROUS  
RECEIVED

Help the vineyard worker make his way to the landlord.

