



At-A-Glance: Ages 8-9
Kings & Kingdoms Part 1: The Life of Jesus
Unit 5, Lesson 26

The Workers in the Vineyard

Lesson Aim: To know God is fair and generous.

THE WELCOME

MEET & GREET: What kind of chores do you do?

GAME: Fair "Foot" Ball

THE WORSHIP JESUS AS THE KING WHO TEACHES

Read Worship Scripture: John 1:16.

Sing songs and worship God. Bless and collect the offering.

Perform Critter Kingdom script or read storybook.

THE WORD THE WORKERS IN THE VINEYARD

Children sign note cards; place in Golden Bowl. Classroom Covenant.

Review: Parable of the Vine and the Branches

Today, we will hear Jesus' Parable of the Workers in the Vineyard. A vineyard is a field of grapevines. A denarius was the usual pay for a full day's work. It is an ancient Roman coin made of silver. Reveal Bible Story Scripture Reference: Matthew 20:1-16. Find It First. Highlight Key Verse Matthew 20:13. Pray. Read.

THE WAY GRIN OR GRUMBLE

What did the vineyard owner pay the workers? (They all received the same amount—one denarius.) **Why did some of the workers grumble?** (They thought the owner was being unfair.) **How would you have felt if you worked all day and were paid the same as those who only worked for one hour?** The vineyard owner was fair because he paid each of them what he had promised.

The owner was very generous to the ones who came later. Generous means giving freely. How was he generous? (He gave a full day's pay to all of the workers, even those who only worked one hour.) **Was it unfair for the owner to give generously?** (No.) **Is it unfair for God to give generously?** (No.)

The owner gave the workers who came later a denarius they had

not fully earned or deserved. That is called grace. In God's grace, He gives us blessings we have not earned. What are some examples of gifts of grace—things He has given you that you did not earn? What is the greatest gift God has given us that we did not earn? (God sent His Son to give us life forever with God.)

If time allows, play GRINNERS & GRUMBLERS game located in the GOT TIME? segment of this lesson.

This week, whenever you see someone has been given an extra blessing, I challenge you to smile about our generous God and be a "grinner" instead of putting yourself first and being a "grumbler."

CHRIST CONNECTION:

Sometimes, when we complain something is unfair, we may be jealous, envying the one who received the special attention or gift. Jealousy and envy are unhappy feelings of wanting what someone else has. Have you ever been jealous of someone who received something wonderful?

Instead of thinking about a blessing we did not receive, we can focus on the many blessings God has already given us. One thousand years before Jesus told this parable, King David listed many of the blessings God generously gives us.

Reveal Psalm 103:2-5. Find It First. Highlight. Read.

Next time you are feeling jealous, ask God to help you remember all the blessings He has generously given you.

THE GOLDEN BOWL: Pray for individuals. Pray the Lord's Prayer.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES:

- TREASURE TREAT: The Workers in the Vineyard Kingdom Parable Sticker
- DAILY WAY CHALLENGE
- OFFERING OF ART: A glad worker and a grumbling worker
- PRAYER REQUESTS
- BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SONG

GOT TIME?

SNACK: Fair and Generous Snack

CRAFT: Parable Wind Chimes—The Workers in the Vineyard

GAME: Grinners & Grumblers

BONUS PARABLE: The Wise Builder

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES: Color Decode, The Wave
KINGDOM PARABLE REVIEW