

## What's In It For Me?

Storyteller #18

Tim Gill - August 9, 2015

Peter answered him, "We have left everything to follow you! What then will there be for us?" **Matthew 19:27 (NIV)**

- The landowner represents **God**.
- The workers represent **His followers**.

**As I follow Jesus, He wants me to remember...**

### 1. God wants to **use me**. (v.1-7)

For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard. <sup>2</sup> He agreed to pay them a denarius for the day and sent them into his vineyard.

**Matthew 20:1-2 (NIV)**

About nine in the morning he went out and saw others standing in the marketplace doing nothing. <sup>4</sup> He told them, 'You also go and work in my vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' <sup>5</sup> So they went. "He went out again about noon and about three in the afternoon and did the same thing. <sup>6</sup> About five in the afternoon he went out and found still others standing around. He asked them, 'Why have you been standing here all day long doing nothing?' <sup>7</sup> "Because no one has hired us,' they answered. "He said to them, 'You also go and work in my vineyard.' **Matthew 20:3-7 (NIV)**

One day as he was walking along the beach beside the Lake of Galilee, he saw two brothers—Simon, also called Peter, and Andrew—out in a boat fishing with a net, for they were commercial fishermen. <sup>19</sup> Jesus called out, "Come along with me and I will show you how to fish for the souls of men!" <sup>20</sup> And they left their nets at once and went with him. **Matthew 4:18-20 (TLB)**

- My primary focus:  My vocation  God's **vineyard**.

God has made us what we are. In Christ Jesus, God made us new people so that we would do good works. God had planned in advance those good works for us. He had planned for us to live our lives doing them. **Ephesians 2:10 (ICB)**

### 2. God is **generous** to me. (v.9, 14)

"...Truly I tell you, at the renewal of all things, when the Son of Man sits on his glorious throne, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. <sup>29</sup> And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or fields for my sake will receive a hundred times as much and will inherit eternal life..."

**Matthew 19:28-29 (NIV)**

The workers who were hired about five in the afternoon came and each received a denarius. **Matthew 20:9 (NIV)**

...I want to give the one who was hired last the same as I gave you. **Matthew 20:14b (NIV)**

### 3. God is **fair** with me. (v.9-12, 13-15)

The workers who were hired about five in the afternoon came and each received a denarius. <sup>10</sup> So when those came who were hired first, they expected to receive more. But each one of them also received a denarius. <sup>11</sup> When they received it, they began to grumble against the landowner. <sup>12</sup> 'These who were hired last worked only one hour,' they said, 'and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the work and the heat of the day.'

**Matthew 20:9-12 (NIV)**

But he answered one of them, 'I am not being unfair to you, friend. Didn't you agree to work for a denarius? <sup>14</sup> Take your pay and go. I want to give the one who was hired last the same as I gave you. <sup>15</sup> Don't I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?' **Matthew 20:13-15 (NIV)**

God is not unjust; he will not forget your work and the love you have shown him as you have helped his people and continue to help them. <sup>11</sup> We want each of you to show this same diligence to the very end, so that what you hope for may be fully realized. <sup>12</sup> We do not want you to become lazy, but to imitate those who through faith and patience inherit what has been promised.

**Hebrews 6:10-12 (NIV)**