

## ***Bible Stories for Young Children***

*part of a curriculum prepared for young children*

# ***THE WORKMEN AND THEIR WAGES***

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**MATTHEW 19:27 – 20:16**

**THE WORKMEN AND THEIR WAGES**

File no. 143

**Jesus told this story about  
His Father's kingdom:**

**The kingdom of heaven  
is like a man  
who owned a vineyard.**



**There was lots of work  
to be done.  
So, early one morning,  
he went to the market place  
and found some men  
to work for him.  
He agreed to give them  
a day's pay.**



**At 9 o'clock the owner  
went to the market place.  
He found some more men  
to work for him.  
They, also, would get paid.**



**In the middle of the day  
and at 3 o'clock,  
he went to the market place again.  
He found some men  
standing there  
and gave them work to do  
in his vineyard.**



**At five o'clock,  
nearly the end of the day,  
the owner went  
to the market place again.**

**Some men were  
standing there doing nothing  
and he asked,  
'Why are you standing here  
doing nothing?'**

**They answered,  
'No one has given us work.'**

**'Well,' said the owner,  
'Go and work  
in my vineyard.'**



**At the end of the day,  
the owner said to his manager,  
'It's time to give everyone  
their pay.  
Pay those who came last, first,  
then the ones  
who came in the afternoon,  
then the midday,  
and, last of all,  
the ones who came first.'**

**The manager paid  
everyone a full day's pay,  
just as the owner had said.**



**The men who started work first  
looked at their money  
and said to the owner,  
'This is not fair.  
We worked hard all day.  
Others worked for only one hour.  
You have given us  
all the same pay.'**

**The owner said,  
'You agreed to work  
for a day's pay.  
Take your wages and go home.  
I wanted to give the last men  
the same as I gave you.  
Are you cross with me  
for being kind?'**

**Those who are last now  
will be the first  
in God's kingdom.  
Those who are first now  
will be last in the future.**

