

WE'RE SO GLAD

YOU'RE HERE TODAY!

Is this your first time here? Welcome! Stop by the Info Spot before or after the service. We'd love to meet you, answer any questions you have, and give you some information. For kids and students, we offer great programs specially tailored to their ages. The Westwood Kids team is happy to help you get them connected. For more info on the great things happening here, check out westwoodcc.org.



Baptism is a joyful expression of faith for a believer. It symbolizes the new life found in Christ. If you'd like to be baptized in our last outdoor baptism of the season, head to our website for information.

Chanhassen: Sunday, September 9, 12:30 pm, Lake Ann

Minnetonka: Sunday, September 9, 12:30pm, Shady Oak Beach



Do you like cool cars? The Westwood Wheelers 13th Annual Car and Motorcycle Show is a great event for the whole family. Enjoy live music from A Bit of Gorgonzola, food and fun.

Saturday, August 25, 10:00am–1:00pm

Lower Level Parking Lot at the Chanhassen Campus

"So the last will be first, and the first will be last." (Matthew 20:16)

Why does Jesus share this parable?

The disciples are expecting _____, but Jesus says that God's grace establishes _____ in the Kingdom of God.

Jesus disrupts our assumptions about:

_____ : It is God's _____, not any _____, which provides blessing.

_____ : Justice in God's Kingdom is not a _____ to what is earned or deserved. Justice is the _____.

_____ : We are motivated by fears of _____, but God's love runs no risk of _____.

_____ : The world's _____ is not part of the Kingdom of God. We are _____.

Tell Me A Story • August 19, 2018 • Laura Gilbertson

LAST GO FIRST: THE WORKERS IN THE VINEYARD

BIBLE READING PLAN

Join us in reading the Bible together. The Bible Reading Plan is a way to incorporate reading the Bible into your week. These verses are chosen by our staff and designed to complement the Sunday message.

You can find it on our app or at westwoodcc.org/readingplan

- Isaiah 55:1-7
- Acts 10:1-23
- Acts 10:24-48
- Romans 5:12-17
- James 1:16-18

TELL ME A STORY



westwoodcc.org



westwood
community church

August 19, 2018

Tell Me a Story #9: Last Go First
Parable of the Workers in the Vineyard
August 19, 2018

1. The parables told by Jesus are in response to the conversation he's having. Spend a few minutes looking at Matthew chapter 19 and 20 to see what situations lead to the parable of the workers in the vineyard, and what follows. Who is Jesus with? What are they talking about? What else happens in chapter 20 after the parable concludes? What do you think prompts Jesus to tell this parable, and what is his point?
2. As you read the parable, what stands out to you? How are you personally challenged by the ways Jesus is teaching about God's grace?
3. Can you think of an example where someone's generosity didn't seem "fair?" Maybe it was extended to you, someone else, or by you to someone? How did this situation make you feel?
4. Laura identified four ways the parable can be disruptive to our assumptions.
 - a. *Worthiness: It is God's generosity, not any personal work, which provides blessing.* Are you striving to make yourself worthy rather than accepting God's grace? If so, what does that look like in your life? Do you struggle to celebrate God's love for other people, especially those you may not feel are worthy? Talk about those situations together and take time to pray and encourage one another.
 - b. *Fairness: Justice in God's Kingdom is not a reaction to what is earned or deserved. Justice is the proactive pursuit of right relationship.* How does this definition of justice differ from what we see in our American criminal justice system? How does Laura's definition inspire you to pursue justice? What does this Kingdom justice look like when applied to our relationships, society, and politics?
 - c. *Generosity: We are motivated by fears of scarcity, but God's love runs no risk of shortage.* Do you agree that our culture is driven by the fear of running out of material goods? If so, how does this impact our relationships with each other? How does the generosity of God's love give us a model for relating to others? Discuss how this impacts our interpersonal relationships, as well as social issues like immigration, health care, etc.
 - d. *Community: The world's hierarchy of status is not part of the Kingdom of God. We are equals.* Have you ever been caught up in striving for status at work, school, among peers, etc? How did that impact you, and your relationships with others? If we share equal status in the Kingdom of God, how could that influence the way we interact with one another in our day-to-day lives?
5. Laura suggested that the main point of the parable is this: *The disciples are expecting special rewards, but Jesus says that God's grace establishes equal status in the Kingdom of God.* Why did Jesus need to make this point to his early disciples? Why do we still need to hear this now?
6. Pray together that you may know God's abundant love and that you would have the faith to extend that generosity to others.