

# Sunday School Lesson

## Sunday, May 10, 2020 Fifth Sunday of Easter



*“So those who are last will be first, and those who are first will be last.”*

While labeled Sunday School, please feel free to use these ideas in a way that blesses your family. You do not have to do all the activities nor do you need to do them on Sunday morning. You can use whatever translation of the Bible or Children’s Bible you have in your home.

**Read:** Matthew 20: 1-16

### **Activities and Background:**

In the days of the Bible the working class took their tools and went into the marketplace hoping to be hired for the day. Work was so needed that some were willing to stay all day hoping for a few hours of work. A denarius (singular for denarii) was a normal day’s wages. Since the grapes in Palestine ripen just before the rainy season and rain ruins the crop, there often was a crazed rush to harvest before the rains thus the need for extra workers at the last minute. A landowner might gather a crew and by midday, seeing that the harvesting was not progressing fast enough, go back and hire more workers. Jesus uses this story to describe the Kingdom of Heaven. The main message for children is that God’s way is different from people’s way. God cares about everyone equally regardless of status or power or work. Christ’s grace is given generously to all. The Spirit of love and compassion overrides what is deserved.

1. Can you think of a time when something like this happened in your life “The first were last and the last first”? Share those stories.
  - I wonder were you one of the first or one of the last.
  - I wonder how you felt and what you did.
  - I wonder how God wants us to respond.
2. Did you ever receive something that you did not think you deserved?
  - I wonder how you felt. I wonder what you wanted to do.
  - I wonder how the other person felt.
  - I wonder how God felt when you acted this way.Did you ever give someone else something they did not deserve?
  - I wonder how you felt. I wonder what you wanted to do.
  - I wonder how the other person felt.
  - I wonder how God felt when you acted this way.
3. Older children might want to compare Matthew 20: 8 with the Old Testament verses Leviticus 19:13 and Deuteronomy 24:15.
4. Read the story again from a different Bible. Draw a picture to remind you of the story.
5. Say a prayer together praying for those who work hard, for those who work a little, for those who work part-time or full-time and for those who cannot work.