



NEW TEACHING SERIES

# WHAT YOU CAN DO:

## You Can Serve

November 1, 2020

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Today's Truth: True serving is trusting in the sovereign goodness of God.

Matthew 20:1-12 (NIV)

**Q—What is your reaction when you feel life's not been fair to you?**

Matthew 20:13-15a (NIV)

*"...are you envious because I am generous"?* Matthew 20:15b (NIV)

### "Fair" Universal Truth Statements

- **Justice** means getting what we *do* deserve.
- **Mercy** is *not* getting what we *do* deserve.
- **Grace** is getting what we *don't* deserve.

Romans 5:8–11 (NLT)

John 15:15 (NIV)

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

### Living Last is...

⇒ **Celebrating rather than \_\_\_\_\_.**

Romans 12:15 (NIV)

⇒ **Preferring others rather than feeling \_\_\_\_\_.**

Phil 2:4 (NIV)

⇒ **Offering grace rather than staying \_\_\_\_\_.**

⇒ **Being real rather than being \_\_\_\_\_.**

You can be correct and not right. You can have the right words but be in the wrong...Only Jesus has the power to change people and it will be harder for them to see Jesus if their view of him is blocked by our opinions. Bob Goff  
Everybody Always

⇒ **Serving rather than** \_\_\_\_\_.

**This Week's Spiritual Practice: I will serve my Lord by serving**  
**in** \_\_\_\_\_.

ANSWER KEY: comparing, entitled, offended, right, stewing

DOING *life*  
*Together*

**Study & Discussion for Your Next Small Group**

Theme: *Critics or Kingdom Builders*

**Reflect Together:** What impacted you the most from Sunday's message, and how were you able to apply this week's Spiritual Practice and be a part of the

Season of Prayer?

**Share Together:** What was your first job and what was your experience like?

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

**Discuss Together:**

- Why did Jesus use this story to say what the Kingdom of God is like?
- Which of the hired men do you most closely identify with: those hired early or those hired late? Why?
- When have you received something you didn't earn or deserve? How did you feel receiving it? How did you feel when others didn't earn or deserve it?
- When someone says that God's not fair but He is just, what does that mean?
- How does this story relate to people experiencing the grace of God no matter what age or stage of life? How does the message and acceptance of The Gospel tie in with the story?
- How does this story speak to the issue and attitude of entitlement among church-going Christians?
- What does "the first shall be last and the last shall be first" mean to you personally as a Christ follower?
- What are some practical ways we can "live last" as Kingdom builders rather than critics?

**Prayer Together:** Share needs in your group to pray for, as well as updates on what God has been doing.