**Pastor Demetric Felton Sr January 14, 2024**

 **Don’t Despise The Grace Of God**

Matthew 20:1-16

**Key Truth:** God delights in blessing people who submit to His rule and reign in their lives.

**What This Parable Teaches About The Kingdom Of Heaven:**

1. God is full of grace, mercy, and compassion.

2. God desires to see all people come to salvation.

3. It’s never too late to start living for God.

4. Heaven is the greatest reward we could ever receive.

**How To Get Envy Out Of Your Heart:**

1. Never forget how God’s grace saved you.

2. Don’t claim promises God never made to you.

3. Don’t assume God owes you anything.

4. Celebrate the grace and mercy of God shown to others.

**Why God’s Grace Is So Amazing:**

1. We are saved by grace into Jesus’ Kingdom family.

 Ephesians 2:5

2. We are called by grace into Jesus’ Kingdom service.

 1 Corinthians 15:9-11

3. We are gifted by grace for Jesus’ Kingdom service.

 Romans 12:3-7

**Taking It Beyond The Walls:** Thank God for His grace. Everyday, remember your great need for Jesus. Celebrate His grace in the way you relate to Him and to others.

**Connection Group Homework:**

Looking back at your notes, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

Have you ever had a job you felt like you were paid too little for?

What about the opposite situation? Have you ever had a job you felt you were paid too much for?

Read Matthew 20:1-9: Put yourself in the place of one of the workers hired early in the day. How would you have felt throughout the day as new workers continued to arrive?

How would you have felt at the end of the day?

Put yourself in the place of one hired at the close of the day. How would you have felt?

Why is it important for us to see that the focus in this parable is on the employer, not the employees? What happens if our focus in the Kingdom is on each other and not on God?

Read Matthew 20:10-16: Why didn’t the workers in this parable appreciate the generosity of their employer? Where was their focus?

Why is it tempting to compare what we get from God with what some else gets? What happens when we do?

What motivates you to serve God?