

G O S P E L

A reading from the Gospel according to Matthew 20:1-16

One day Peter asked Jesus, 'How many times do I have to forgive someone who hurts me? As many as seven times?'

Jesus said to him, 'No, not only seventy times, but seventy times seven!'

One day Jesus told his disciples this parable: 'This is what the reign of God is like. Once there was a man who owned a grape vineyard. One morning he hired a group of workers to pick the grapes in his vineyard. They all agreed on how much they would be paid for the day's work. Later that day, the owner hired a few more workers and said to them, "Go into my vineyard to work, and I will pay you what is fair."

'Then, later in the day, he found still more workers and sent them into his vineyard to work. Finally, about 5:00 in the afternoon, he saw some others in the town who weren't working but just standing around. He asked them, "Why are you wasting your time instead of working?"

'They answered, "Because no one has hired us to work."

'So the owner of the vineyard said, "I will hire you. Go now to my vineyard and work for me.'

'That evening, the owner called all the workers together to pay them for their work. He started with the ones he hired last. When they came forward, he paid them for a whole day's work even though they had worked only one hour.

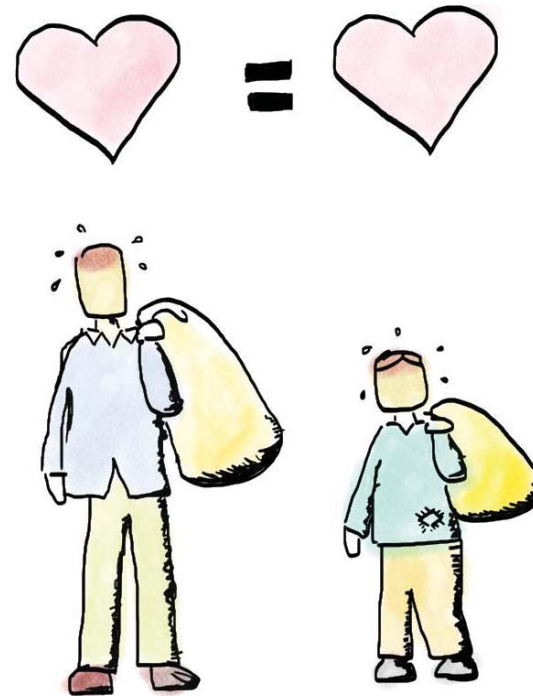
'Now when the people who had worked all day came forward, they thought they would be paid more. But they got exactly the same as everyone else. They started complaining and said, "These last people worked only one hour, and you have paid them to same as you paid us. But we have worked all day in the hot sun."

'The owner of the vineyard said, "My friends, I am not treating you unfairly. Didn't we agree this morning on how much you would be paid? So here, take what you have earned. I want to pay everyone the same. Am I not free to do what I want with my own money? Or are you angry because I am generous and kind?"'

The Gospel of the Lord.



A parable is a story Jesus tells to help us understand Him better.



Today's Gospel talks about being fair. What does being fair mean to you?

C H I L D R E N ' S
L I T U R G Y

C A N W E T A L K
A B O U T I T

Sometimes we want to be first. We want to win first place in a race, or come first in our class, or just be the most liked out of all our friends.

Do you think God thinks of us this way? Do you think God only likes the best? Or does God love everyone?

It's actually pretty easy to tell if God loves you. The answer is He always does. And if we find it in our heart to love him too, we can forget about trying to come first.

W H A T W O U L D
J E S U S D O ?

Today Lucy is excited because her mom said she can go watch a movie if she cleans up her room.

Lucy spends the whole morning tidying up.

Lucy's mom tells Lucy's little brother Glen to help clean up too. Glen cleans up for five minutes.

At the end of it Lucy's mom brings BOTH of them to see a movie. Lucy thinks it isn't fair Glen cleaned up for five minutes.

How would you feel? What should Lucy do?

Colour the grapes in the grapevine. What do they say?

