

**Sermon Notes**  
**April 2, 2017**

**“Better Than We Deserve”**  
**Matthew 20:1-16**  
**Pastor Bill Hoffman**

Note the difference between this passage and the lines just before (19:28-29), both of which are Jesus' answers to Peter's question about rewards for faithfulness. If you could eliminate one of these passages from the Bible, which would it be?

Where do you see yourself (which worker) in Jesus' story; and are you more glad or mad at the end of the day when the workers get paid?

Most people would be glad to know that God is generous, compassionate, and merciful; and that he values people over profits. Why might some of these same people find Jesus' story disturbing?

While some Scripture passages suggest there may be rewards in heaven (see Matthew 19:28-29), this one does not. Apart from the incentive of future rewards, what might motivate someone to serve God faithfully early in life, and persevere in doing so until they die?