

JESUS ON LEADERSHIP

Matthew 20:1-28

From Kingdom by Dave Nadler/chapter 28

**FOURTH
STREAM**
FINDING HOPE

Put yourself in the place of an original listener. You are motivated because you have come to hear Jesus. You are curious because His words are different than anything you have ever heard before.

THE LANDOWNER/Matthew 20

The heart always propels us to compare ourselves with those around us rather than to contemplate our individual standing before our King.

“For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. “When he had agreed with the laborers for a days wages for the day, he sent them into his vineyard.

“And he went out about the third hour and saw others standing idle in the market place; and to those he said, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and whatever is right I will give you.’ And so they went.

“Again he went out about the sixth and the ninth hour, and did the same thing. “And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, ‘Why have you been standing here idle all day long?’ “They said to him, ‘Because no one hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You go into the vineyard too.’

“When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, ‘Call the laborers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last group to the first.’ “When those hired about the eleventh hour came, each one received a days wages.

“When those hired first came, they thought that they would receive more; but each of them also received a days wages. “When they received it, they grumbled at the landowner, saying, ‘These last men have worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden and the scorching heat of the day.’

“But he answered and said to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for a days wages? “Take what is yours and go, but I wish to give to this last man the same as to you. ‘Is it not lawful for me to do what I wish with what is my own? Or is your eye envious because I am generous?’

“So the last shall be first, and the first last.”

Kind of makes you want to be content with not leading the pack. It also is a real statement on our views of what is fair and what is unfair. But this is a tough one to process, is it not?