

This Week's Scriptures
September 20, 2020
Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Isaiah 55:6–9 † Philippians 1:20c–24, 27a † Matthew 20:1–16a

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Have you ever felt that God was unfair? We may deny it but there is a tendency in our human nature to feel slighted and angry, even at God, when we think we have followed all the rules and done all that is expected of us (and sometimes even more) and someone else is rewarded for doing far less. This is the situation that we find in the parable of the laborers in the vineyard.

In the ensuing discussion between the vineyard master

and the laborers we understand that God's goodness and grace are not measured out by time or location or preference. These gifts of God are constant, free, and unconditional. They are there for anyone ready to receive them. We need only to be open and allow them to become part of our way of being.

When we are tempted to blame God for being unfair we might reflect on the first reading. Isaiah reminds us that:

"...my thoughts are not your thoughts neither are your ways my ways," declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts higher than yours."