

**eXplain it**  
**(Pre-Lent 1)**

**Exodus 17:1-7 (Water from the Rock)**  
**Psalm 95 (Let us Sing to the Lord)**  
**1 Cor. 9:24--10:5 (Warnings Against Idolatry)**  
**Matt. 20:1-16 (Laborers in the Vineyard)**

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**The Gift of Metaphors**  
**and Similes**

**abstract vs. concrete**

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**abstract concepts**  
**(the mind, classroom)**

**omnipotent**  
**omniscient**  
**omnipresent**

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**concrete images  
(the heart, hospital bedside)**

**The Lord is ...**

**my shepherd  
rock, fortress, salvation  
the bread of life  
living water**

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**Matthew 20:1-16 "For the kingdom of  
heaven is like ...**

**... a landowner who went out early in the  
morning to hire men to work in his vineyard.  
(NIV)**

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**"like a vineyard ..."**

**vine and branches  
gardener and laborers  
pruning and cultivating  
produces fruit**

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**Old Testament Images**

**Genesis 1-3**  
**Psalm 80**  
**Song of Solomon**  
**Isaiah 3,5,27**  
**Jeremiah 2**  
**Ezekiel 17,19**

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**New Testament Images**

**Matthew 21 (two sons told to work)**  
**Mark 12 (evil tenants)**  
**Luke 13 (no fruit)**  
**John 15 (the Vine and branches)**

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**Genesis 1-3**  
**“Work in the garden!”**  
**Adam and Eve sin.**  
**The garden is full of thorns and thistles.**

**Genesis 3 – Revelation**  
**Jesus redeems and saves.**  
**We are new creatures in a new creations.**  
**“Work in the garden!”**

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**Matthew 20:1-2:** "For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire men to work in his vineyard. 2He agreed to pay them a denarius for the day and sent them into his vineyard. (NIV)

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**Matthews 20:3-ff:** "About the third hour he went out and saw others standing in the marketplace doing nothing. 4 He told them, 'You also go and work in my vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' 5 So they went.

**6"**He went out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour and did the same thing. (NIV)

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**Matthews 20:6-ff:** About the eleventh hour he went out and found still others standing around. He asked them, 'Why have you been standing here all day long doing nothing?'

**7"** 'Because no one has hired us,' they answered. "He said to them, 'You also go and work in my vineyard.' (NIV)

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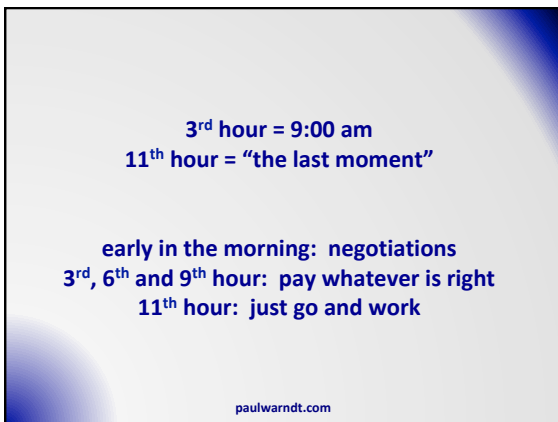
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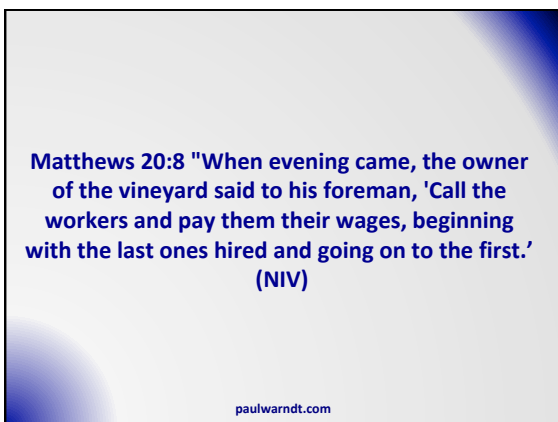
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**Matthews 20:9 "The workers who were hired about the eleventh hour came and each received a denarius. 10So when those came who were hired first, they expected to receive more. But each one of them also received a denarius. (NIV)**

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**Matthews 20:11 When they received it, they began to grumble against the landowner.**

**12'These men who were hired last worked only one hour,' they said, 'and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the work and the heat of the day.' (NIV)**

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**Matthews 20:13"But he answered one of them, 'Friend, I am not being unfair to you. Didn't you agree to work for a denarius?**

**14Take your pay and go. I want to give the man who was hired last the same as I gave you.**

**15Don't I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?'**

**16"So the last will be first, and the first will be last." (NIV)**

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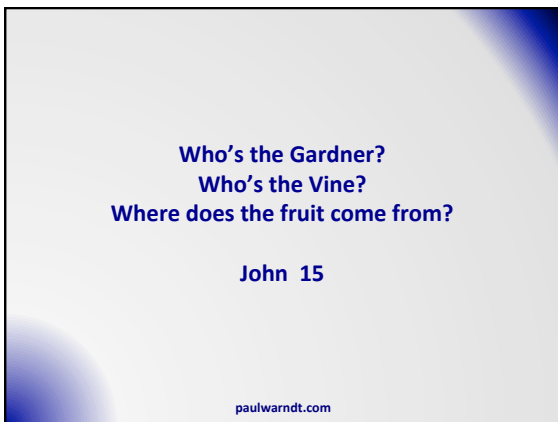
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**John 15:14-ff: You are my friends if you do what I command. 15 I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you.**

**16 You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit--fruit that will last. (NIV)**

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**The Kingdom Economy**

**not wage  
but grace**

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