

A APPLY

The goal of reading the Bible is transformation. We want to let the Word of God grow deep in us so that we can bear much fruit.

1. What dangers can creep into our motivation for following Jesus? How has this affected you?

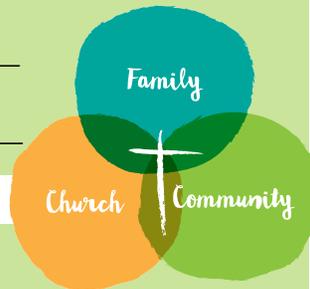
2. What should remain our focus as we follow Jesus? How do you intend to do that?

3. Is there any response to this passage you feel that the Holy Spirit is impressing upon you?

REACH

We want our groups to be communities who grow together and who encourage each other to reach out with the gospel. Write down and share the names of people “within arm’s reach” that you hope to help move forward toward Jesus this Fall:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____



PRAYER

Finish your time in God’s Word by using this passage as the subject of your prayer. Take time to thank God for what was learned and express your desire for His continued work of transformation in your life. Pray also for the names people have shared and opportunities to reach them this Fall with God’s radically gracious good news.

More than We Deserve

Matthew 20:1-16

I never knew:

I need to change:

I should share:



GROWTH GROUP QUESTIONS

WEEK 01
September 8, 2019

GETTING STARTED

If there are new people in your group, have everyone do a brief introduction while answering the first question:

1. What was your first real job? What was it like?
2. Share about a time when you put a lot of work into something and were disappointed with the reward?

FOR GROWTH GROUP TIME

SOMA

BIBLE STUDY METHOD
southshores.org/soma



SOAK

Read **Matthew 20:1-16** three times asking the Holy Spirit to open it to you. Our goal is to soak in the Spirit, the scripture, and its surroundings.

1. Where does this passage fit into the book of Matthew? What takes place right before this story?
2. What kind of writing is this? What is unique about this way of teaching?



OBSERVE

Once we've soaked in the passage, we want to make sure we are able to see all that is really there; not interpreting, but taking note of what is present.

1. Who are the main characters? What do we learn about them?

2. What other elements are significant in the parable?
3. Is there a surprise in this parable?
4. Do you have any questions from the parable?



MEANING

Now that we're familiar with the passage, we want to get at its meaning. This isn't about what it means to me, but what the author was intending to say.

1. What is the landowner's message to the workers hired first? (vss 13-15)
2. Who do you think the landowner represents? What about the first workers?
3. What do you think is the main point of the parable? What is Jesus really trying to get across?
4. How could you sum up the meaning of the passage in your own words?