## The Solution to Practically Everything | Part 2

Lesson 6

Matthew 20:1-16; Luke 19:1-10

November 12, 2023

#### The Math Won't Work

### **INTRODUCTION**

God wants to give salvation and acceptance to people. He reaches out to all, but often it is the ones most marginalized that respond. He has always been the shepherd of a huge flock of "people sheep."

We don't always understand why he calls the ones he does, but he sees us differently than we see each other. No one is better, or more deserving than another person. We all need Him. We all get the same salvation. We can't let personal preferences or expectations keep us or others from the Kingdom of God.

We need to remind ourselves of the extravagant riches of His salvation and who He includes in it.

Memory verse: "For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."—Luke 19:10

Pray, and read Matthew 20:1-16 and Luke 19:1-10. What questions or observations do you have about these passages?

# **OBSERVATION:** What do the passages say?

SERVATION: What up the passages say?	
1.	Jesus told a parable (teaching story) about a group of day laborers. The parable isn't about rewards but about God's provision for all. What was the amount they each earned? (Matthew 20:1-2, 9-10)
2.	When some grumbled that they had been there longer and should be paid more, what two questions did the landowner ask of them? (Matthew 20:15)
3.	The passage from Luke's gospel recounts a familiar story about an actual person named Zacchaeus. What was his occupation, and what did Jesus say to him? (Luke 19:2, 5)
4.	What was the attitude of the locals to Zacchaeus, and what did Zacchaeus offer to do for them? (Luke 19:7-8)
5.	How did Jesus describe Zacchaeus? What did Jesus say was his purpose here? (Luke 19:9-10)

# **INTERPRETATION: What do the passages mean?**

1. Jesus clashed with the expectations of the religious leaders. What were their objections? (Mark 2:16; Luke 7:36-39, 15:2)

2. Why did Jesus pursue ministry to outcasts? (Ezekiel 34:12, 15-16; Mark 2:17; John 3:17, 8:28-29)

3. What do you notice about where Jesus helped people? (Psalm 139:7-10; Matthew 11:1, 15:29-30, 21:14; John 4:4)

4. Jesus called Zacchaeus by name, went to his house, had dinner with him, and showed him how accepted he was. Zacchaeus' response (Luke 19:8) was extravagant. What happens when a sinner repents? (Luke 15:1-7)

## APPLICATION: How do the passages apply to your life?

1. Was there something in this lesson that felt like a challenge for you personally? We can easily seem more like a Pharisee than a disciple, keeping our comfort zone intact, but God wants us to grow in our attitudes toward the lost. Consider how you view this world, and ask God to open your eyes to see it as He does.

2. Do you want to join the "rejoicing in heaven" (Luke 15:7) crowd but don't know how to do it? Pray the following prayer:

Lord, sometimes we forget how dedicated You are to gathering lost and wounded souls to Yourself. Help us to notice those who are hurting and listen to Your voice telling us how we can reach out to them. Help us to be more like Jesus in this world and less afraid to do Your work. Let there be new souls in heaven because we were able to love them in Your name. Amen.