



Many Are Called

A Bridges of Light Bible Study

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Instructions

This study may be used individually or in a group setting. The Leader's Guide is designed to be used by the Leader during a group discussion. The Guide is color coded to assist in directing the discussion. If you are going to lead a group discussion, then we suggest that you read the summary first, and then review the discussion, including the discussion points and answers. If you are using this study for your personal study time, then read the summary and then answer the questions on the Study Section. Make sure that you read and study the scriptures used in the Study. After you have completed the Study Section, then compare your answers to those that you will find in the Leader's Guide.

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Color Code

◆ Scripture References in Red

◆ Leaders Guide points in Green

◆ Other comments

◆ Notes and Questions in black

◆ Summary of typical responses in blue

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Summary

In two different parables, the Labors for the Vineyard and the Wedding Feast, Jesus made the statement that “many are called, but few are chosen.” It is a statement that has often been misrepresented and misunderstood. It is a statement that must be viewed through the Love and Mercy of God; with an understanding of the price that Jesus paid for us. God sent forth His Only Begotten Son unto His chosen people and they rejected Him. God through the death and resurrection of Christ called everyone to Him. Though many were called, few answered the call. Of the children of Israel only 120 people stood in the upper room. Many have been called, but they turned away despite the wonders that they saw. The price the Jesus paid dealt with the sin issue if we accept the free gift. God has sent forth His Spirit and His angels with invitations. He gathered the good and the sinful. All He gathered came to the wedding feast, but some refused the wedding garments that He provided. His gift of salvation is available for us to accept. His righteousness is available for us to receive. It is our choice. He chooses us. The only question is will we receive the righteousness that He provided us as well. We will stand before Him accepted in the beloved or find ourselves cast forth, because we choose our own righteousness, our own works, our own ways.

As you explore this concept we use in this study do it with the understanding that God does not expect perfection, just a willing heart. He already paid the price demanded by His perfect law. He called us and chose us, sending forth a personal invitation. It is a free gift. A gift that must be accepted and unwrapped.

Leader's Guide

✓ **Matthew 20:1-16 (KJV)**

- 1) For the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an householder, which went out early in the morning to hire laborers into his vineyard.
- 2) And when he had agreed with the laborers for a penny a day, he sent them into his vineyard.
- 3) And he went out about the third hour, and saw others standing idle in the marketplace,
- 4) And said unto them; Go ye also into the vineyard, and whatsoever is right I will give you. And they went their way.
- 5) Again he went out about the sixth and ninth hour, and did likewise.
- 6) And about the eleventh hour he went out, and found others standing idle, and saith unto them, Why stand ye here all the day idle?
- 7) They say unto him, Because no man hath hired us. He saith unto them, Go ye also into the vineyard; and whatsoever is right, that shall ye receive.
- 8) So when even was come, the lord of the vineyard saith unto his steward, Call the labourers, and give them their hire, beginning from the last unto the first.
- 9) And when they came that were hired about the eleventh hour, they received every man a penny.
- 10) But when the first came, they supposed that they should have received more; and they likewise received every man a penny.
- 11) And when they had received it, they murmured against the goodman of the house,
- 12) Saying, These last have wrought but one hour, and thou hast made them equal unto us, which have borne the burden and heat of the day.
- 13) But he answered one of them, and said, Friend, I do thee no wrong: didst not thou agree with me for a penny?
- 14) Take that thine is, and go thy way: I will give unto this last, even as unto thee.
- 15) Is it not lawful for me to do what I will with mine own? Is thine eye evil, because I am good?
- 16) So the last shall be first, and the first last: for many be called, but few chosen.

- 1) Who are the laborers mentioned in the above parable?
 - ❑ Those that serve the LORD. Jews and Gentiles alike.
- 2) Who are the first laborers and who are the last?
 - ❑ The first are those that have gone before us. The Jews, God's chosen people.
 - ❑ Those hired during the earlier parts of the day are Jews and other believers who strove to live for God and to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ throughout the World
 - ❑ The last are those that have been brought into His family through Christ during the last days; the last hour before His return.
- 3) How would you describe the labor of the first group?
 - ❑ Difficult work, performed during difficult times - the heat of the day.

- 4) Do the last hour workers benefit from the labor of those that have worked throughout the day?
- Yes. The fruit of their labors simplify the effort required by the last hour worker.
- A) In what way do you benefit from the work, prayers and understanding of others?
- Today we have the benefit of the combined work of all those who came before us. We have His written word to use to build our understanding. We benefit from the fruit of the prayers that God lead them to pray, because His Word does not return void. We have greater understanding because others shown us the way of truth.
- 5) How would you describe the labor of the last group?
- They benefit from the out pouring of the last day's anointing. Greater revelation. Greater anointing. Greater understanding. They walk in the cumulation of all of the prayers and labor that have gone before them.
 - They walk in the Liberty, favor and power provided them through Christ.
 - They operate under the anointing of the last great out powering.
- 6) What was the wage that they all received?
- Their salvation; eternal life.
- 7) In the parable of the laborers did the owner honor the last hour workers more than the first?
- Each received the same reward for their service.
- 8) Why did Jesus say, "the first shall be last and the last shall be first?"
- While our labors are important, but it is the choice that we the matters. This does not mean those who answered His call and have labored hard have done so in vain. But the reward of value is eternal life with God, the Father. Nothing else compares to it.
- ✓ Romans 8:19-21 (KJV)
- ¹⁹⁾ For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God.
- ²⁰⁾ For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope,
- ²¹⁾ Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God.
- 9) Does Romans 8:19-21 speak of the last hour workers, or something else?
- Yes. They are the last hour workers
 - Yes. They are something else. They are those who walk in the liberty of Christ with the full understanding of who they are in and through Him.
- 10) What is meant by the manifestation of the sons of God, and why would the creation be waiting with earnest expectation for them?
- The manifestation of the sons of God is the point in which the body begins walking in the full anointing provided them through Christ and with the knowledge of who they are in Christ.
 - They represent God on earth.

11) When will they begin to be seen?

- To some degree they already are - we are them.
- They will be more fully manifested during the last great outpouring.
- Full manifestation will come during the thousand year reign of Christ on earth.

✓ Matthew 22:1-14 (KJV)

- 1) And Jesus answered and spake unto them again by parables, and said,
- 2) The kingdom of heaven is like unto a certain king, which made a marriage for his son,
- 3) And sent forth his servants to call them that were bidden to the wedding: and they would not come.
- 4) Again, he sent forth other servants, saying, Tell them which are bidden, Behold, I have prepared my dinner: my oxen and my fatlings are killed, and all things are ready: come unto the marriage.
- 5) But they made light of it, and went their ways, one to his farm, another to his merchandise:
- 6) And the remnant took his servants, and entreated them spitefully, and slew them.
- 7) But when the king heard thereof, he was wroth: and he sent forth his armies, and destroyed those murderers, and burned up their city.
- 8) Then saith he to his servants, The wedding is ready, but they which were bidden were not worthy.
- 9) Go ye therefore into the highways, and as many as ye shall find, bid to the marriage.
- 10) So those servants went out into the highways, and gathered together all as many as they found, both bad and good: and the wedding was furnished with guests.
- 11) And when the king came in to see the guests, he saw there a man which had not on a wedding garment:
- 12) And he saith unto him, Friend, how camest thou in hither not having a wedding garment? And he was speechless.
- 13) Then said the king to the servants, Bind him hand and foot, and take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.
- 14) For many are called, but few are chosen.

12) Who are those that made light of the Kings invitation to the Wedding Feast?

- The Jews. God's chosen people?

A) Does this apply to anyone else?

- Yes. Anyone who turns his back of God's invitation. Anyone who chooses the things of this world over the things of God.

13) What was meant by the identification of those that were found in the highways?

- They were the strangers. Those that did not live in the city?

A) Symbolically, who are they?

- The gentiles; non-believers.

- 14) What is represented by the one who came without a wedding garment?
- They are improperly clothed. Their garments are the rags of works and self righteousness.
- A) What did they lack?
- The righteousness provided through Christ.
- B) Why was he bound and cast out?
- Because his heart was not right. By coming to a wedding without a wedding garment, the man dishonored the king.
- C) Did the man believe that his garments were good enough to attend the wedding?
- The fact that he was speechless indicates that he thought what he had was enough.
- D) Are there believers who in the same condition as this man?
- Yes. Many believe that their religion; their works or the prayers of others will pave the way so that they will have eternal life. Many reject the work of the cross and God's word; believing that they can earn their way into the Kingdom of God. Many choose not to recognize their need for Christ and a relationship with Him, choosing dead works of the law instead.

✓ Matthew 16:24-27 (KJV)

- 24) Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.
- 25) For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it.
- 26) For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?
- 27) For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward every man according to his works.

- 15) When Jesus said we must deny ourselves, and take up His cross and follow Him, what did He mean?
- By denying ourselves we choose His will and ways over our own.
 - We acknowledge that Christ is the only path to God.
 - We base our relationship with God on the work of the cross and not anything that we do to earn righteousness.
 - We allow Jesus to rule in our lives; following His ways and accepting His Word as our truth.
- 16) How would you attempt to save your own life?
- Reject the work of the cross and believe that we can earn our own way to eternal life.
 - Choose to do that which you think is best for you instead of what God is telling you to do.
- A) What is the cost of saving your own life?
- You lose everything that you are trying to keep on your own.

17) What does it mean to lose your life for His sake?

- ❑ Choose His path for your life instead of your own.

A) What is the result of losing your life for His sake?

- ❑ You gain your life and much more.
- ❑ His plan for your life is far more than you ever dreamed possible.

18) When Jesus says that He will reward every man according to his works, what does he mean?

- ❑ Each will receive a reward, blessing or punishment based on their own works.

✓ Matthew 22:14 (KJV)

For many are called, but few are chosen.

19) When Jesus told the parable of the Wedding Feast, why did He end it by saying, “many are called, but few are chosen”?

- ❑ Many were bidden to the Wedding Feast, but few actually responded to the call.
- ❑ God desires that all come receive eternal life through Christ, but many chose their own ways and life instead.

{ God chose you to serve Him. God, who knew every choice you would make through your entire life before time began, called your name. He chose you because He knew you would say yes. God’s invitation was to everyone, but not everyone accepts the invitation. }

Bible Study Questions

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- 8) Why did Jesus say, "the first shall be last and the last shall be first?"

✓ **Matthew 16:24-27**

15) When Jesus said we must deny ourselves, and take up His cross and follow Him, what did He mean?

16) How would you attempt to save your own life?

17) What does it mean to lose your life for His sake?

18) When Jesus says that He will reward every man according to his works, what does he mean?

✓ **Matthew 22:14**

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