

## CONNECT GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

God's Economic Plan



### GETTING STARTED

Share about a time you were part of a *performance-based* system — school, work, sports, family, or even church. How did it feel to live under those expectations?

### THIS WEEK'S THEME

Where do you most feel the pressure to “measure up” or perform in your life right now? How does that pressure shape your emotions or decisions?

The sermon names how easily we apply performance-based thinking to our faith. What does that sound like in real life? (“God, if you will \_\_\_\_, then I will \_\_\_\_.”)

Read Matthew 20:1-7. What feels strange or unexpected about the landowner's behavior? Why do you think Jesus tells the story this way?

Read Matthew 20:8-12. Why are the early workers upset? What does their reaction reveal about comparison and entitlement?

In verses 13-15, the landowner says he is not being unfair — he is being generous. How does this challenge our ideas of fairness, reward, and worth?

How does the workers receiving the same wage, *not because of what they earned, but because of the generosity of the master*, reframe how you think about grace?

Where might you be limiting God's grace — settling for a “shot glass” when the ocean is behind you? What fears or habits keep you from turning around?

Jesus says in Matthew 20:26, “The last will be first, and the first will be last.” How does this teaching free us from competition, comparison, or keeping score?

Angie's message emphasizes that God doesn't want something *from* you but wants something *for* you. How does that change the way you think about generosity — financial or otherwise?

### TAKING IT HOME

*This week, notice where you are operating out of performance instead of grace and ask yourself: “Am I trying to earn something God has already given?” Practice one act of generosity — time, money, attention, encouragement — as a response to grace, rather than an obligation.*

### PRAY

Gracious God, thank you for showing us a different way — where grace is the rule, not the exception. Help us to see the abundance of your mercy. Loosen our grip on what we cling to, soften our anxious hearts, and teach us to live generously and freely. Amen.