

## CURRENT SERIES

### Sola: What Matters Most

October 31st is the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, when a little-known monk named Martin Luther nailed some topics for debate to the church door in Wittenberg, Germany and set in motion events that would lead to a rediscovery of the Gospel of Jesus. 500 years later, it's still all about Jesus and what He means for you and your life today!

## MESSAGE NOTES

### Sola Gratia: By Grace Alone

Matthew 20:1-15 | Pastor Matthew Starner

Grace does two things:

1. It points to Jesus, who gives us what we \_\_\_\_\_
2. It points to us and reminds us that we are \_\_\_\_\_

**Matthew 20:1-15 NIV:** “For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard. <sup>2</sup>He agreed to pay them a denarius for the day and sent them into his vineyard.

<sup>3</sup>“About nine in the morning he went out and saw others standing in the marketplace doing nothing. <sup>4</sup>He told them, ‘You also go and work in my vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ <sup>5</sup>So they went.

“He went out again about noon and about three in the afternoon and did the same thing. <sup>6</sup>About five in the afternoon he went out and found still others standing around. He asked them, ‘Why have you been standing here all day long doing nothing?’

<sup>7</sup>“ ‘Because no one has hired us,’ they answered.

“He said to them, ‘You also go and work in my vineyard.’

<sup>8</sup> “When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, ‘Call the workers and pay them their wages, beginning

with the last ones hired and going on to the first.’

<sup>9</sup> “The workers who were hired about five in the afternoon came and each received a denarius. <sup>10</sup> So when those came who were hired first, they expected to receive more. But each one of them also received a denarius. <sup>11</sup>When they received it, they began to grumble against the landowner. <sup>12</sup>‘These 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.’

<sup>13</sup>“But he answered one of them, ‘I am not being unfair to you, friend. Didn’t you agree to work for a denarius? <sup>14</sup>Take your pay and go. I want to give the one who was hired last the same as I gave you. <sup>15</sup>Don’t I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?’

- Grace is not based on \_\_\_\_\_.

Grace is not based on the \_\_\_\_\_ of the receiver,  
but on the \_\_\_\_\_ of the giver.

- Grace is appreciated by \_\_\_\_\_.

**Luke 7:41-43 NIV:** “Two people owed money to a certain moneylender. One owed him five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. <sup>42</sup>Neither of them had the money to pay him back, so he forgave the debts of both. Now which of them will love him more?” <sup>43</sup>Simon replied, “I suppose the one who had the bigger debt forgiven.” “You have judged correctly,” Jesus said.

Our sin is an \_\_\_\_\_ debt.

It’s only when we realize just how \_\_\_\_\_ we  
are that we appreciate how \_\_\_\_\_ God is!

# TALK IT OVER

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These discussion questions can help you take today's sermon and help you apply it to your life or find your next steps. Use these questions with your family, with friends, or in your own personal devotion time.

1. Have you ever felt underpaid or under rewarded for work you did? What was the service you provided? Why didn't you feel adequately taken care of? Did you keep doing that job?
2. What does "grace" mean to you?
3. Read Matthew 20:1-15. From an earthly perspective, who deserved more or less pay? What does this parable of Jesus tell us about the landowner (who represents God in this story)? What is their pay based on? (Hint: see the message notes.)
4. Why do you think the default belief system is to believe that we must somehow earn salvation?
5. Do you remember the first time you understood grace was absolutely free? How did the Good News affect you then? How does knowing you are forgiven affect your choices now?

# THIS WEEK IN THE BIBLE

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Take today's message beyond Sunday and into the rest of your week. Read and reflect on these verses alone, with your family, or with a friend. Talk about how they apply to your life today or what God might be teaching you through His Word.

<b>Sunday</b>	Matthew 20:1-15
<b>Monday</b>	Romans 11:6
<b>Tuesday</b>	Ephesians 2:8-9
<b>Wednesday</b>	Hebrews 4:16
<b>Thursday</b>	Romans 5:8
<b>Friday</b>	Titus 3:5-7
<b>Saturday</b>	John 1:17

# ONLINE NOTES

You can also take notes and engage with the message using the **YouVersion Bible** app. With **YouVersion Events** you can follow along with the message, take notes, read related Bible verses, ask questions, and more.