

## Individually Accountable Irrespective of Others

*Series on Following God's Schedule*

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### What We Will Learn

- God expectations and judgment of an individual regarding a human relationship
- Independent of his expectations and judgment of the other party
- Each is accountable to God individually
- Irrespective of what the other party does
- Parable of the Workers in the Vineyard
- Letter to Romans on individual responsibility
- David response to death of Saul

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### Parable of the Workers in the Vineyard

- Christ uses contract between landowner and individual worker
- To explain God's expectations of each individual in a human relationship
- Each worker was paid according to his individual contract with landowner
- Irrespective of landowner contract with others
- Matthew 20:1–15

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### Matthew 20 (NIV)

1 "For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard.

2 He agreed to pay them a denarius for the day and sent them into his vineyard.

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### Matthew 20 (NIV)

3 "About nine in the morning he went out and saw others standing in the marketplace doing nothing.

4 He told them, 'You also go and work in my vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.'

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### Matthew 20 (NIV)

5 So they went.

"He went out again about noon and about three in the afternoon and did the same thing

6 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?'

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### Matthew 20 (NIV)

7 “Because no one has hired us,’ they answered. “He said to them, ‘You also go and work in my vineyard.’

8 “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.’

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### Matthew 20 (NIV)

9 “The workers who were hired about five in the afternoon came and each received a denarius.

10 So when those came who were hired first, they expected to receive more. But each one of them also received a denarius.

11 When they received it, they began to grumble against the landowner.

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### Matthew 20 (NIV)

12 ‘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.’

13 “But he answered one of them, ‘I am not being unfair to you, friend. Didn’t you agree to work for a denarius?’

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### Matthew 20 (NIV)

14 Take your pay and go. I want to give the one who was hired last the same as I gave you.

15 Don’t I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?’

- You are accountable to God individually for your responsibility in a relationship

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### Parable of the Workers in the Vineyard cont’d

- God has individual expectations of each person in a human relationship
- His expectations of an individual may differ from his expectations of other individuals
- Each is accountable to God individually
- Independent of others’ accountability to God
- What you do matters to God irrespective of what others do or fail to do

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### Letter to Romans on Individual Responsibility

- Individual responsibility in a relationship
- Live at peace with everyone
  - “If it is possible”—that is, explore every option
  - “As far as it depends on you”—Focus on aspects that depend on you
- Romans 12:18

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## Romans 12 (NIV)

18 If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.

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## David's Response to Death of Saul

- David revered Saul in life
- Honored him in death
- His responsibility to God-anointed king
- Irrespective of how Saul related to him
- David was accountable to God
- For how he related to Saul
- Irrespective of what Saul did or failed to do

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## What We Learned

- Each person in a human relationship is accountable to God individually for their responsibilities in the relationship
- Irrespective of the other party performing or failing to perform their responsibilities
- Parable of the Workers in the Vineyard
- Letter to Romans on individual responsibility
- David response to death of Saul

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