



THE CITADEL GLOBAL COMMUNITY CHURCH

## SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES NUGGETS



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2026

## THE PARABLE OF THE WORKERS IN THE VINEYARD By Pastor 'Femi Famuyide

2026: OUR YEAR OF FRUITFUL LABOUR | 2 Chronicles 15: 7

- Law and faith are fundamentally different. Faith receives eternal life as God's gift, while the law promises life only to those who perfectly obey its commands. Since no one can do so consistently, the law results in death and condemnation. This was the lesson Jesus sought to teach the rich young man (**Matthew 19:16-30; 20:1-16, Galatians 3:11-12**).
- In seeking justification by the law, the young man failed to keep its foremost command: to have no god but God. He did not understand that the law demands perfect obedience in every respect. Salvation, however, cannot be earned by works but is received by grace through faith (**Matthew 19:22**).
- The young man was enslaved by mammon, his true god. Despite his outward religiosity and apparent obedience, his heart was not devoted to God. He lacked the love and surrender required to forsake all and follow Him.
- The most critical lesson of this story is that the young man sought a life he was unwilling to sacrifice for. He desired eternal life, but not at the cost of complete surrender (**Matthew 19:22, MSG**).
- At times, God's word confronts the idols in our hearts, making it difficult to accept. Like the young man, when his true attachment was exposed, he walked away from the life he sought because he could not let go of what he cherished most.
- God's word is a mirror that reveals us as God sees us and exposes the areas that need change. When it shows us what to do, and we choose not to obey, we are essentially walking away from Jesus.
- You may not be a rich young ruler, but the question is the

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same: what are you holding so tightly that you cannot let it go for the sake of Christ?

- Yours may be offences, bitterness, or malice that you are holding tightly to. You may be unwilling to forgive those who have hurt you deeply, having already resolved in your heart to deal ruthlessly with them rather than let go.
- To follow Jesus, we must surrender everything, for He will accept nothing less than all of us. If God gave up His Son for us, what is it that you cannot give to Him or let go of?
- We must avoid the trap of Cain. Though he offered a sacrifice, it was rejected, and he became dejected and discouraged. When God's word came to correct him, he rejected it (**Genesis 4:6-7**).
- Sin is always lying at the door, seeking to master us. When we hold on to things we should let go of, the devil magnifies them

in our hearts until they lead us into actions we later regret.

- The rich young ruler's problem was not what he possessed, but what he lacked: room in his heart for God. As long as he was in control, he was comfortable. But when God occupies the heart, He takes the driver's seat, directing our lives, our choices, and all He has entrusted to us according to His will.
- Jesus is not against us having riches, for He is the One who gives us all things richly to enjoy. How then could He bless us with riches and, at the same time, deny us eternal life because of those riches? No, that is not possible (**1 Timothy 6:10-17**).
- God is not against us having wealth or riches. He is against wealth or riches having us. As His children, we must know how to steward what God has given to us. He is the One who has blessed us with it, and He has the right to determine

what He wants to do with what He has placed in our hands.

- God desires to bless every one of us abundantly, and He will do so. But He also expects us to be responsible stewards of what He gives to us.
- The fact that some people are highly placed, hold prominent positions, or have exercised authority for many years is no guarantee that they are truly serving God. Neither is it a guarantee that they possess eternal life or that they will enter the kingdom of heaven.

“You must count the cost and determine whether you are willing to follow Jesus to the very end. You must make up your mind and resolve in your heart that you will follow Him faithfully, regardless of the challenges. For it is those who endure to the end and finish well who receive the crown.”

- The qualification for entry into God's kingdom is not determined by wealth, status, position, or any other earthly distinction. It is granted solely by the grace of the living God.
- Salvation is entirely the work of God's grace, received through faith, and not something that can be earned through wealth, moral effort, or social standing (**Ephesians 2:8-9**).
- Following Christ demands our absolute loyalty above every earthly possession and every relationship we may have. Indeed, it demands our allegiance above everything else.
- You must count the cost and determine whether you are willing to follow Jesus to the very end. You must make up your mind and resolve in your heart that you will follow Him faithfully, regardless of the challenges. For it is those who endure to the end and finish well who receive the crown.

- The eternal reward that comes with following Jesus far outweighs any earthly gain. That was the tragedy of the rich young ruler. He walked away from Jesus because he could not see the eternal picture. His focus was fixed on what he would lose in the present, rather than on what he would gain for eternity.
- God is Spirit, and our engagement with Him must be spiritual. No amount of riches or wealth on this side of eternity will last; all of it will eventually fade away. What endures are the things that are eternal. That is why Jesus was seeking to shift their minds and direct their thoughts towards an eternal perspective rather than a temporal one.
- The moment you receive Jesus Christ into your life, you receive eternal life. You begin to live that life here and now, and when you leave this earth, you enter into the fullness of all that Christ has promised (**John 5:24, 1 John 5:11-13, Philippians 3:20-21**).

- Following Jesus comes with persecution, especially when you are faithfully walking in His will. Yet those who endure with Him will also share in His reward and glory (**Luke 22:28-30, John 15:18-20, 2 Timothy 3:12, Romans 8:17-18**).



#### PRAYER POINTS

1. Father, I receive Your grace to rise above every obstacle and refuse to frustrate Your purpose for my life, home, and church (**Galatians 2:21**).
2. Lord, let sin have no dominion over me. Give me the grace to let go of anything that competes with Your place in my heart (**Romans 6:14, Luke 14:33**).
3. Father, help me to forgive, obey Your voice, and make every correction You require of me. Remove every bitterness and resistance from my heart (**Ephesians 4:31-32**).
4. Lord Jesus, take full control of my life. Give me the grace to follow, obey, and sacrifice for

You without hesitation (**Luke 9:23**).

5. Father, as You bless and increase me, help me to steward Your blessings faithfully and remain devoted to You above all else (**1 Timothy 6:17-19, 1 Corinthians 4:2**).