



Matthew 19:13-20:34



## Sample Theme and Aim Statements:

### THEME:

From Kim Jorgensen: *The primary theme running through Matthew 19:13-20:34 is the truth that salvation is **a free gift of divine mercy totally devoid of human merit**, and it is given to those who **humbly receive Christ in child-like faith**.*

From Kathy Hammond: *Through instruction and example, Jesus explicates the nature of his kingdom's claims and the necessity of **embracing humble dependence on the grace of Jesus' ransoming sacrifice** to receive the life of his kingdom.*

### AIM:

From Leesa Jensen: *Matthew aims to clarify that the Kingdom of Heaven belongs to those who **embrace the suffering, servanthood, and mercy of the Lord Jesus** and to call his readers to respond by following in His footsteps.*

# Question 1

The order in which Jesus responds to the rich young man is helpful in understanding this encounter.

What is revealed by...

- His initial comments on goodness?
- His specific mention of commandments 6,7,8,9,5?
- His command to sell his goods and follow?



## Question 2

How do the disciples react to the idea that it's difficult for the wealthy to enter the kingdom of heaven (19:25)?

Why do you think they react this way?

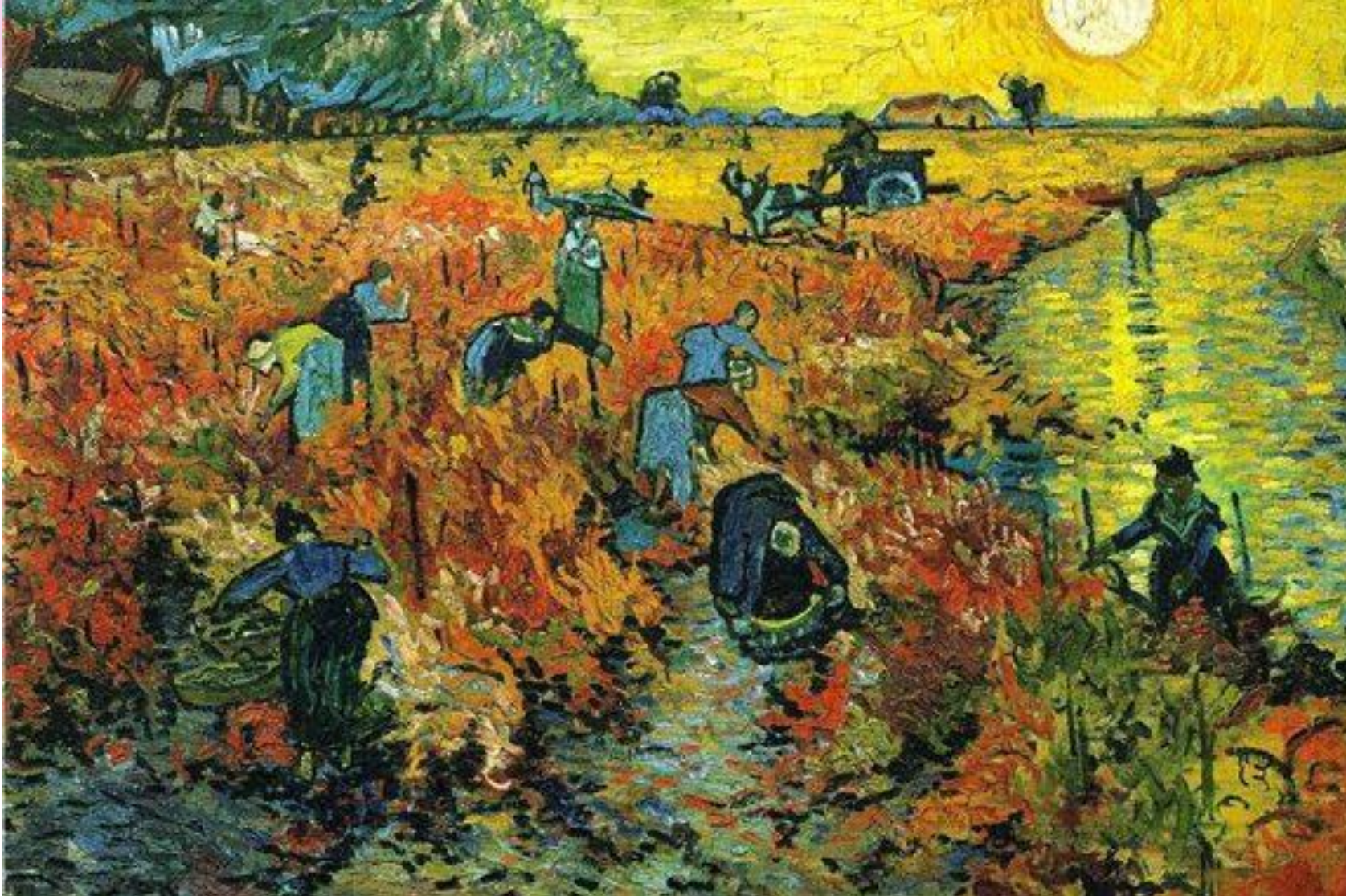
# Breakout Room

Like the rich young man, we all have possessions, relationships, roles or identities that can define us at the expense of our spiritual health.

In our world today, what things (in general) keep us from turning and following Jesus wholeheartedly?



# Parable of the Workers



'Red Vineyards at Arles' (1888) by Vincent Van Gogh



# Question 1

God's grace in salvation is not fair...that's why we tend to recoil at the parable ( 20:1-16) - it's all about people not getting what they deserve.

Why did Jesus tell this parable?



Lawrence W. Ladd, Parable of the Laborers in the Vineyard, ca. 1880

David Platt:

*"God doesn't owe us salvation for something we have done; He give us salvation despite everything we have done. Salvation is a free gift of divine mercy totally devoid of human merit. God owes us nothing, yet HE gives us everything in Christ."*



## Question 2

How does Jesus' healing of the two blind men compare with the request of James and John?

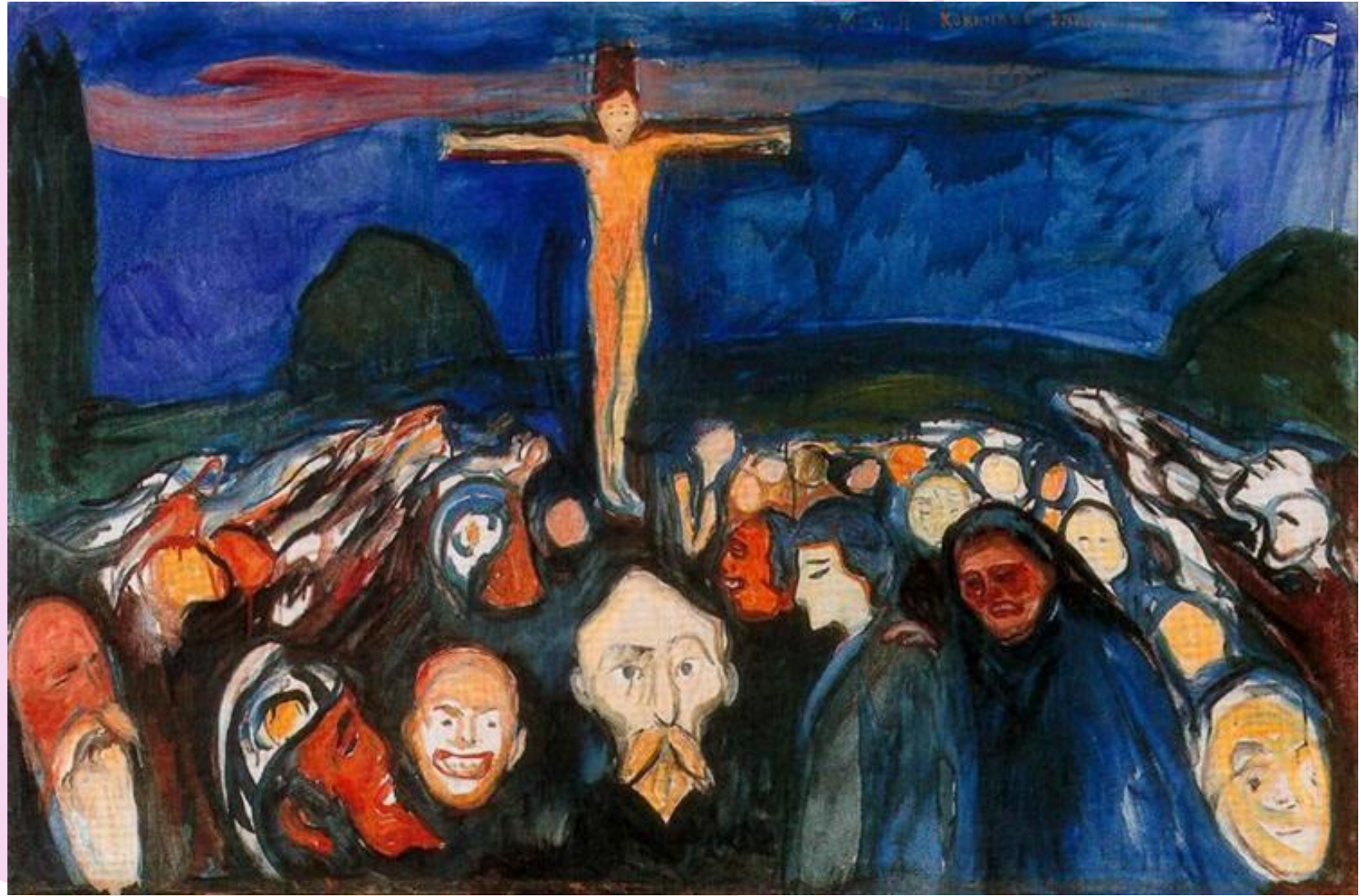
Why would Matthew choose to recount this encounter?



## Question 3

Why is it important for us to understand the idea of ransom, atonement and imputation?

That is, what happens to folks who don't grasp what Jesus did on the cross?



*Golgotha*, Edvard Munch, 1900



## Isaiah 53

11 Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied;  
by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant,  
make many to be accounted righteous,  
and he shall bear their iniquities.

12 Therefore I will divide him a portion with the many,  
and he shall divide the spoil with the strong,  
because he poured out his soul to death  
and was numbered with the transgressors;  
yet he bore the sin of many,  
and makes intercession for the transgressors.

Amen