

BUILDING FAITH IN THE FAMILY

A GENEROUS BOSS • Matthew 20:1–16

Jesus sometimes told stories to answer questions. Peter had a question that all the disciples wondered about. “Lord,” Peter said, “we’ve left everything to follow you! What will we get for this?” The disciples wondered if they might get special treatment because they’d given up so much and been with Jesus for so long. So Jesus told them a story to show them something about God.

You can watch the story on YouTube (“Laborers in the Vineyard” <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OgUw5FWWG8c&t=10s>), or you can read it in your Bibles: Matthew 20: 1-16.

What does it mean?

- Why did some workers grumble?
- Were they right to grumble? (*Remember what they’d signed up for.*)
- What was the landowner like?

Jesus wanted to show His disciples that God is generous, like the landowner. He doesn’t have favorites. Even if people sometimes forget about God, even when *we* sometimes disobey Him, God will always care for us and forgive us, and He will always, always love us—love *all* of us.

By this time, the grape harvest would be finished in Jesus’ country, but we are almost into harvest season here. In just a few days fall begins, with grain harvests and bright colored leaves and crisp days. Lots of reasons to give thanks.



THANKS FOR FALL, THANKS FOR ALL

Make these Fall Leaf Cookies to remind you to say thanks for fall and everything God has given you.

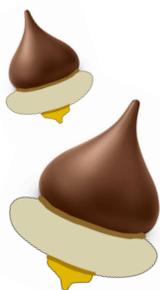
Ingredients

- 2 cups bought sugar-cookie dough
- Food coloring: red, yellow, orange, green
- Black edible marker
- Leaf cookie cutters
- Wax paper or parchment paper
- Rolling pin

Instructions

1. Preheat oven to 350°

2. Divide dough into 4 balls and use red, yellow, orange, and green colorings to tint each ball of dough.
3. Break off small pieces of each color and randomly stick them together into a colorful log.
4. Use your palms to flatten this log.
5. Place flattened dough between sheets of wax paper and roll to about 1/4” thick.
6. Cut out shapes with leaf cutters.
7. Place them on a parchment-paper-lined cookie sheet and bake for 6-8 minutes until golden brown around edges.
8. As cookies cool, talk about the gifts God has given you, things you’re thankful for. When they’ve cooled, use the black edible marker to print God’s gifts on the cookies. Remember to say thanks when you eat them.



FALL ACORN CANDY

These are fun to make and eat—and say thanks for!

Ingredients:

- 24 mini vanilla wafers
- 24 Hershey Kisses
- 24 butterscotch chips
- ½ cup chocolate frosting

Directions:

- Unwrap kisses.
- Place frosting in a Ziploc bag with the corner cut out.

- Squeeze a pea-sized bit of frosting on **bottom** of wafer and push bottom of Hershey Kiss onto the frosting on wafer.
- Place a smaller drop of frosting on **top** center of wafer and press the bottom of a butterscotch chip onto that frosting.
- Repeat for all “acorns.”
- Allow them 1 hour to dry and harden, then enjoy them with your thank-you leaf cookies.

