

WEEK 2 - INJUSTICE

OVERVIEW

Humans were created to live in just, loving relationships. Because of our rebellion, however, we too often spread *in* justice instead. Systems of poverty deepen, preventable diseases spread, slavery is perpetuated, and the poor and marginalized are neglected. However, as with the other broken places, God cares deeply about bringing healing to injustice and desires for his children to heal it as well. As he says through the prophet Amos, "I want to see a mighty flood of justice, an endless river of righteous living" (Amos 5:24). What is truly remarkable, though, is the degree to which God identifies with those crushed by injustice. Nowhere is this clearer than the provocative teaching of Jesus in Matthew 25, where he claims that when his followers are serving the poor, they are actually serving *Him!* It's a provocative invitation to make the work of God's justice not just an occasional act, but a lifestyle.

I tell you the truth, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to me!

Matthew 25:40

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. Describe the broken place of injustice.
- 2. What has been your personal experience with injustice?
- **3.** Read <u>Amos 5:21-24, Isaiah 58:6-8</u>, <u>Psalm 82:2-4</u>, <u>Jeremiah 22:3</u>, <u>Deuteronomy 10:18-19</u>, <u>Luke 4:18-19</u>, <u>Revelation 21:3-4</u>.
 - a. How does God feel about injustice?
 - b. What is God's message to us about injustice?
- 4. What will be your role in healing the broken place of injustice?
- 5. Read Ephesians 2:10.
 - a. Have you considered your calling in this world? What do you think it is?
 - b. How do you find the good things that God has for you to do?
- 6. How can one person even begin to heal the systems of injustice in the world? See John 14:12.