



MISSION

JUSTICE

Objective for Learning: To understand God's heart for Kingdom justice.

Objective for Living: To humbly live in right relationships with the most vulnerable in your community and being an advocate and practitioner of justice.

Objective for Reproducing: To disciple others in engaging in justice and justice issues in your culture.

Scriptures for Justice:

- Isaiah 42:1-7
- Isaiah 58:6-7
- Micah 6:8
- Zechariah 7:9-10
- Psalms 146:7-9
- Luke 14:12-13
- Matthew 11:4-5
- Deut. 10:17-18
- Proverbs 31:8-9
- Jeremiah 22:3

How do each of these Scriptures help to **define** and **illuminate** what accountability is and why it is important?

Hearing (Discussion Points and Questions):

Overview:

Throughout Scripture, God consistently reveals Himself as an advocate for all people through the Holy Spirit, especially for the poor and vulnerable. God is a father who longs for just cultures, systems, and institutions. In the Old Testament, we see God continually advocating on behalf of the poor, foreigners, widows and orphans. He is fighting for His people to reorient themselves to Him and to serve justice to the most vulnerable members of society.

Many evangelicals shrink back from implementing justice into their discipleship

practices because of political connotations. However, regardless of political opinions, it is clear that God's heart cares deeply for the oppressed and calls his children to embody faithfulness and light on a personal, religious and social level. In verses Luke 4:18-19 Jesus teaches in the synagogue after his 40 day fast on His anointing to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and set the oppressed free. Generally, there are two ways to do this. The Hebrew term *mishpat* refers to the justness of society, including punishment for wrong doing and giving people their due or right. The second Hebrew word that refers to doing justice, *tzadeqah*, translates to "being righteous" and involves conducting daily life with fairness, generosity and equity in all relationships. It is impossible to try to live in the biblical likeness of Christ and not have a heart for the justice and the most vulnerable.

Questions for Learning and Living:

- If someone asked you why justice was important, what would you tell them?
- What are some injustice issues in our society? What can we do about them?
- How can we handle these issues as disciples? What do the Scriptures say about the character of someone who does justice?
- Discuss some ways you can implement equity and generosity in your life.

Questions for Reproducing:

- What are some ways to encourage others to care about justice?
- What are the steps you would need to take to get them on board with justice? How do you help to cultivate a passion and consistency of doing justice in the lives of others instead of just talking about it?

Doing (Implementation and Application):

- What is Jesus saying to you about this?
- How are you going to respond? Look at your personal discipleship assessment.
 - Give 1-3 concrete action steps that you are going to do this week to help you take the next step of learning, living, or reproducing in this area.
- What are some justice issues that are really near to your heart? What can you do to take the next step in advocating for or doing justice in your life around that specific cause?
- Choose one of the Scriptures that really impacted you and commit to memorizing it this week.