



WEEK 2: Do Justice – Justice & People

Date: Oct 18, 2020

Bottom Line: God expects us to use our power, possessions and privilege to do justice for the most vulnerable.

Video: <https://youtu.be/7Mo9xys38fU>

Preparation: Mom and/or dad, take time to prepare well for this spiritual experience with your son or daughter and perhaps their friends. Proper preparation includes reading through this guide, setting up a comfortable environment, preparing the videos, materials (*everyone will need a Bible, pen and notebook/journal*) and snacks, and prayer. It also includes giving your participants time to prepare as well. Let them know in advance what you want to do and then remind them a few minutes before your start time so that they are ready too.

Interactive game/activity: Name that Tune – Disney Movie Soundtrack Trivia

- @Home Activity: You'll need a box of your favorite cookies for today's activity.
 - Face the Cookie: <https://youtu.be/THXXPe4O1bl>
 - Minute to Win-it 60 Second Timer: <https://youtu.be/ebvtJCu33vM>

Transition Questions: (This would be a good time to break out the snacks)

- Just like in this game, in life, there are spectators, winners, losers, cheaters and complainers. This week, which role have you played? (The idea here is to create a little vulnerability and the opportunity to show kindness to one another. It will set up the Good Samaritan story well.)

Video teaching

Set-up: (Say to the group) "Today we're in week 2 of a series titled "Do Justice" and today we're talking about Justice and People. Before we start the video let me ask you, "Who do you believe needs or deserves justice most in our world today?"

Let's watch this week's teaching - <https://youtu.be/7Mo9xys38fU>

Ice Breakers: Would you be willing to...

- get COVID and quarantine alone for 2 weeks, to prevent an elderly person from getting it?
- go to juvenile detention (kid jail) for a year to let an innocent person off or a life sentence?
- give up your cell phone until college to feed a homeless family for the same amount of time?
- give a kidney to a perfectly matched stranger for a chance to save his/her life?

Discussion Starters:

- According to our lesson today, what does sacrifice have to do with justice?
- What lesson about justice stood out most to you? Which truth is most inspiring? Difficult?

Scripture: James 2:8-18

If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, “Love your neighbor as yourself,” you are doing right. ⁹ But if you show favoritism, you sin and are convicted by the law as lawbreakers.

¹⁰ For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it. ¹¹ For he who said, “You shall not commit adultery,” also said, “You shall not murder.” If you do not commit adultery but do commit murder, you have become a lawbreaker. ¹² Speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law that gives freedom, ¹³ because judgment without mercy will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

¹⁴ What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? ¹⁵ Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. ¹⁶ If one of you says to them, “Go in peace; keep warm and well fed,” but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? ¹⁷ In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead. ¹⁸ But someone will say, “You have faith; I have deeds.” Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by my deeds.

Digging Deeper:

- What does James say about loving your neighbor as yourself? How is this like Jesus’ parable?
- What do you think it means that, “*Mercy triumphs over judgment*”?
- How does James describe “mercy” in this passage? What does mercy look like to James?
- Why does James say that “faith, by itself, without action, is dead”? What does he mean?
- Where have you seen mercy on display in your life? When have you shown others mercy?
- How do we “justify” ourselves, like to lawyer did in Jesus’ parable? When have you done this?

Application:

- Who do you cross paths with on a regular basis that needs justice and mercy?
- What do the people that you just listed need? How can you “do justice” in their lives this week?
- Close your group time asking God to help you better demonstrate justice and mercy in your life this week. Pray through the people in your home, neighborhood, school and community.

Closing activity & prayer: choose 1 of the following options for the whole group together.

- Worship: Together watch, sing and/or reflect on the lyrics to [Mercy](https://youtu.be/6gFSkCv3XjQ), by Amanda Cook & Bethel (<https://youtu.be/6gFSkCv3XjQ>)

- Journal Response: Pull out your notebook or journal and create a list of people in our world, country, community and lives that you believe need justice. Take time to reflect on how you can be an agent of justice to them.
- Scripture Response: Read and memorize Micah 6:8

“He has shown you, O mortal, what is good.
And what does the LORD require of you?
To act justly and to love mercy
and to walk humbly with your God.”
- Prayer: encourage your kid(s) to use their notebooks to record prayer requests and pray for the family throughout the week.
 - How can we pray for justice in the world around us today?
 - How can we pray for justice in the lives of our church family and friends today?
 - How can we pray for justice for you and your family today?
 - CLOSE IN PRAYER.