



JESUS IS ____.

Part 5: Justice

Sermon Small Group Questions

Speaker: Pastor Raymond Beaty

USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

We have provided all the Scriptures referenced in the sermon and some discussion questions for you to use to facilitate a discussion.

This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group. For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session together.

While the questions are important, remember your small group's goal is not to pound through the questions but to create an atmosphere that will foster true friendships, so knock yourself out with the discussion questions but spend more time laughing than answering the questions.

Jesus loves to be interrupted by faith.

[Genesis 18.19, ESV]

For I have chosen him, that he may command his children and his household after him to keep the way of the Lord by doing righteousness and justice, so that the Lord may bring to Abraham what he has promised him."

justice: Hebrew word *mishpat* "protection that leads to provision" (less about punishment; small part of the process)

[Deuteronomy 18.3]

And this shall be the priests' due from the people, from those offering a sacrifice, whether an ox or a sheep: they shall give to the priest the shoulder and the two cheeks and the stomach.

Short-term justice means short-term results.

The kind of justice you bring to someone often depends on whether you see them as a problem or a person.

[John 4.7-9, ESV]

A woman from Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." (For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a woman of Samaria?" (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.)

Punished people punish people; Redeemed people redeem people.

Full of the power of God, isolated people become evangelists, walking testimonies to God's love!

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. How would you define "justice"?**
- 2. When was a time that you were emotionally moved to cry out for justice or demand it? (even if just in response to something in the media)**
- 3. How does the Genesis account bring the true meaning of justice out for us? What does that look like?**

- 4. Why do you think we focus on bringing justice more to a problem than to a person? How can you bring biblical justice to individuals?**
- 5. Who are people in your life that are like Samaritans (isolated, unrecognized, avoided, etc.)? What are ways that you can help them feel less like outcasts and more like chosen people?**
- 6. What motivated Jesus to draw close to the rejected, ignored, and forgotten? Why was it important for Him to say that He sees them? What can that open up for our interactions with people today?**
- 7. Pray for God to reveal a specific, practical way for you and those close to you to bring justice this week.**