

Justice: Do Not Become Weary In Well Doing

WARM UP: Describe a time when you were beyond tired and had to finish something.

READ: <u>Galatians 6:7-10</u>, <u>Matthew 5:13-16</u>, <u>Jeremiah 1:9-10</u>, <u>1 Corinthians 15:1-8</u>

FOCUS:To participate in true Biblical justice, we must not become weary, we must continue to do good and we must continue to preach the gospel.

OBSERVE (10 minutes)

DO NOT BECOME WEARY

- Galatians 6:7-10
 - The church in Galatia is being exhorted to bear the burdens of one another as the supreme imitation of Jesus, who is the ultimate burden bearer carrying ours sins and shame to the cross. He carried our sins unto death. He completed justice.
 - God will not be mocked because He IS just. He must repay with equity. We who have His Spirit are to be and act just as well. Justice must be expressed in righteous action.
 - We can either sow (invest) to the flesh (temporary) that leads to corruption or sow to the Spirit's eternal purpose of true justice.
 - We can persevere and not grow weary in seeking justice by seeking prolonged empathy from the Holy Spirit.

CONTINUE TO DO GOOD

- Matthew 5:13-16, Jeremiah 1:9-10
 - As disciples we are to depart from the crowds and the culture coming close to Jesus to learn from Him.
 - To realize Biblical justice, we must speak with God's prophetic voice which leads to godly action.
 - When we speak of becoming a prophetic voice, it means, at its base, being a mouthpiece for what God has already said and will always say in regards to justice.
 - This begins with Biblical character leading to godly action. We are called to be living epistles of God's justice and reconciliation. (2 Cor 3:2-3)
 - This action will include plucking up culturally rooted evils and breaking down divisions and barriers of sin between God and man, and man and man. The end goal is the termination of the injustices that have been systemic within our society to create an equal playing field, before God, for all humanity.

CONTINUE TO PREACH THE GOSPEL

1 Corinthians 15:1-8

- We must ask why is the Gospel of Jesus Christ the starting place for Biblical justice?
- While speaking on behalf of present day justice, remember that you are first ambassadors of the only thing that is truly *eternal*, the gospel of Jesus Christ. This gospel is at least three things:
 - The gospel is God's good news that is of first importance. It is Christ's life declaring that even in death, a new day is possible.
 - The gospel is God's statement that he understands injustice and suffering. Jesus endured unjust, criminal treatment at the cross.
 - The gospel is Christ's statement of hope. It is God's divine invitation to new beginnings.
- It is because as people are changed by God, so are the systems that they
 govern. So are the people who need to rise out of those unjust systems.

For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died; and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised. From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteourness of God. - 2 Cor 5:13-21 (esv)

Week of June 21st 2020

REFLECT AND DISCUSS (30 min)

- What does it look like to 'sow to the Spirit' in seeking Biblical justice?
- Describe what a 'prophetic voice' for Biblical justice should sound like in our culture? How should this voice be followed up with action?
- Why is the gospel of first importance in seeking Biblical justice?

PRAY & TAKE ACTION

- Pray for the strength of God to not grow weary in well doing while seeking Biblical justice all your life.
- Pray for God's heart to be your heart. Ask for His prolonged empathy to be able to continue to do Biblical justice.
- Pray for focus to keep the gospel of Jesus as foundational.

Resources

- Your BIBLE to understand the nature of humanity and God's solution to its fallen state
- Woke Church by Dr. Eric Mason to have a foundational Biblical response to these issues
- Just Mercy on Amazon Video to see a modern example of the cracks in our U.S. justice system
- 13th on Netflix regarding the penal system in America
- Time: The Kalief Browder Story on Netflix