

GAZING ON THE GOODNESS OF GOD

Talk 6 – Just

Small group questions

Leaders – if the questions make no sense or you don't know the answer – please contact revkev182@gmail.com

1. What stood out to you the most in the sermon about God being just? Was there anything you didn't understand?

pt 1: (uncomfortable but okay) 'he does not leave the guilty unpunished.'

pt 2 (less and less comfortable): 'he punishes the children and their children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation.'

Read Exodus 34:6-7 and Revelation 21:1-8

2. Have you ever cried out for justice? Are you longing for justice in any ways right now?
3. For some people the justice of God can sound offensive, while for others the justice of God is incredibly comforting. How can there be such a breadth of experience?
4. How do we make sense of Exodus 34:6-7, and the idea of punishing children? Doesn't that sound like the furthest thing from true justice?
5. On the one hand, we have assurance and forgiveness in Christ. On the other hand, churches are warned to wake up, remember their first love, and be earnest and repent (Revelation 3). How should the Christian think/feel about justice?
6. How does the cross of Christ highlight God's justice, especially in the context of forgiveness and redemption? Reflect on the statement, "The innocent is judged guilty so the guilty ones might walk free." How does this impact your understanding of justice?
7. How does justice and forgiveness perfectly meet in the person of Jesus? What will perfect justice look like when it's fulfilled?
8. The sermon mentioned the tension between wanting justice when wronged and desiring forgiveness when we've wronged others. How do you navigate this tension in your own life?
9. In what ways can we pursue justice in our daily lives, echoing the sermon's call to "Pursue Justice Now"? How can we balance the pursuit of justice with patience, acknowledging that not all injustice will be corrected immediately?
10. Reflect on Micah 6:8 and discuss how we, as individuals and as a group, can actively practice justice in our interactions with others.

As we gather in reflection on your justice and the depth of your character, we thank you for revealing yourself to us. We acknowledge your perfect justice, which balances mercy and consequence. Grant us the patience to wait on your timing, trusting that your justice will prevail in all things. We pray for strength to embody your character of justice, recognizing the importance of forgiveness and the profound grace demonstrated on the Cross. May our lives reflect the transformative power of your justice, leading us to live out Micah 6:8 – to act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with You. Thank you for this Lenten series, as we have been so encouraged and refreshed, gazing at your goodness and revelling in you our God who is compassionate, gracious, slow to anger, faithful, forgiving and just. In grasping this description, may we love you all the more. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.