



WELLSPRING CHURCH

BLESS – Justice and Mercy

Introduction:

Throughout the Scriptures, God calls his people to embody his justice and mercy. Micah 6v8 is a great example: "do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with your God." There is a connection between walking humbly with God and caring about justice. The question before us is simply how to live out the compassion and kindness of God in everyday life.

Scriptures:

Read and discuss Micah 6v8, Isaiah 61v8-9, Psalm 33v5, Luke 4v16-19, 18v1-8

Reflection Questions:

1. In your everyday life, where do you see people in need of God's justice and compassion? What about the larger world you read about in the news? Identify 3-5 people groups and/or places locally and internationally.
2. Describe a time when you needed compassion and did not receive it. Or maybe a time you experienced injustice (however small). What was it like? How did it feel?
3. In Isaiah 58v1-12, the people of Israel use fasting as a way to draw nearer to God. But God tells them that he does care for their fast. What does he suggest instead? Why is that significant?
4. In Matthew 23v23, Jesus tells the Pharisees that they are focused on the wrong things. Do you think you are focused on the "most important" stuff or do you wonder whether you might be neglecting justice and mercy like the Pharisees?
5. In Luke 18v1-18, Jesus tells the story of a woman who is a victim of injustice. In the parable, Jesus offers this woman as a model for intercession—that we might become a people of prayer who call out to God. Ok, here is the question. What does this look like in your life? Do you pray about injustice? Why or why not?

Experiment: (Choose one)

1. Sign up to serve with I-Help on a monthly basis at Wellspring. I-HELP is a local non-profit that we at Wellspring partner with to help the homeless community in our area. We have a couple of opportunities each month to help. After helping with I-HELP, journal about the experience.
2. As you read your newsfeed pray about the various events and issues that arise. Journal about what needs stand out to you.

Pod Discussion:

1. As you listened to the podcast (watched the video), what struck you or stood out to you?
2. What was your experience of the experiment like? Was it enjoyable? Uncomfortable? Did you notice anything about yourself, God or the world?
3. Is God inviting you to change anything in the way you do your life?

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