

## Sermon Discussion Guide

### Jesus & Justice

#### Prayer

Take a few moments at the beginning and ending of your group time to pray for each other and for your discussion in God's Word.

#### Read

Matthew 25:31-46

#### Main Ideas

This week, we saw the heart of Jesus when it comes to justice. In Matthew 25, Jesus teaches that there will be a day in which Jesus separates the righteous from the unrighteous. The difference between the two groups, according to the text, is what each group did to "the least of these" - in other words, those in need.

From this text, it's clear that every soul is accountable to God, those who know Jesus show it by loving their neighbor, and those who don't know Jesus show it by ignoring their neighbor.

#### Discussion Questions

1. Have you ever been on the receiving end of an act of random kindness? What impact did that have on your life?
2. Is Jesus teaching that we are saved solely by good works? What is the connection between faith and works, according to this passage?
3. In the message we heard that how we treat others is either evidence of God's grace or a rejection of God's grace.
  - a. What is an example of how you were shown evidence of God's grace by the way someone treated you?
  - b. What is one practical way that you can give evidence of God's grace by the way you treat someone this week?

4. According to Jesus, loving your neighbor means loving anybody you come across, including the people you dislike and disagree with.
  - a. Is there a person that you find hard to love? Why do you think that is?
  - b. Would the people that interact with you daily describe you as a loving person?
  - c. How did Jesus model this for us by His ministry, and what He did on the cross?
5. One of the temptations we all face is to live a self-centered life.
  - a. Give some examples of Jesus focusing on others, instead of Himself.
  - b. How could we encourage each other to continue to pursue selflessness?
6. One of the best ways to love people is to invite them to the dinner table. In the midst of COVID-19, what are some creative ways we can love the people in our lives?

## **Weekly Challenge**

This week, take time to identify an organization that is dedicated to making things right in your community or in the world. Prayerfully consider how you could be a part of that organization's mission.