

## Session 7: Justice

### INTRODUCTION

#### Recap

At our last gathering, we studied costly compassion (see and act) in Luke 10 and committed to responding with action as opportunities arose.

**Share:** Did you have an opportunity to extend compassion last week? What barriers did you experience and how did you overcome them?

#### Vision + Objective

We are all complicit in upholding and contributing to unjust systems and practices, but flourishing communities acknowledge reality, repent, and work for justice. We live out love by participating in God's mission to make all things right in our world. Pursuing justice is integral for true flourishing.

#### Opening Discussion

Watch the [Bible Project Video about Justice](#). Share in pairs or as a large group: What stood out to you from the video?

Pray to transition.

### PASSAGE STUDY

#### Passage Background

- Amos is a prophet, speaking on behalf of God, condemning the Israelites for not living rightly. This is during a time of relative peace, but their idolatry has led to neglect and exploitation of the poor.

#### Read Amos 5:10-24

##### Observation:

- What are the charges and the consequence? The expectations and the promises?

##### Interpretation:

- The Israelites are religious, yet God despises their religious practices. Why?
- What does God's anger towards the Israelites' actions (and inaction) teach us about God's character and view of justice?

### **Application:**

- What are ways the Church today practices religion yet neglects justice? What would it look like to do what God values and desires from us?
- What connections do you see between the video and this passage?

## **RESPONSE**

### **Activity**

Invite someone to come and share about a justice issue that impacts your community (perhaps someone in the congregation works in community development, immigration resource centers, local non-profits, etc.). Ask about ways that individuals and churches can address these injustices.

Guest Sharing: ~20 min

Open Q&A: 10 min

### **Debrief Questions**

- What stood out in the presentation? Did anything surprise you? Confuse you?
- Who are the major parties involved in this injustice and what are their interests?
- How is this speakers/organization addressing the injustice?
- How do their efforts and mission line up with God's desire for justice?
- What new questions did it raise?

### **Action Step**

- How can you incorporate justice engagement into your life as individuals and a community, as an act of worship and discipleship?

### **Prayer**