Life Group Notes

Lord, teach us to pray

5. Prayer and Justice

These notes are designed to be used in Life Groups alongside the Sunday teaching at Wavertree. You might want to begin the time by sharing what stood out from Taffie's talk on the 11th October.

"Your people will rebuild the ancient ruins and will raise up the age-old foundations; you will be called Repairer of Broken Walls, Restorer of Streets with Dwellings."

Isa 58:12

INTRO: 10 minutes

Share about a time when you saw someone step in to help a person in need.
What impact did it have?

Justice in God's Kingdom is not simply about identifying problems and getting busy solving them. It is about partnering with God in restoration.

Biblical justice is about restoration of right relationships, the defence of the vulnerable and the administration of fairness grounded in the character of God.

DISCUSSION: 15 Minutes

The first steps to enaging with injustice can involve simply allowing yourself to see it and engage with the Father's heart on this issue.

1. To what extent is the topic of injustice one you regularly enagage with and how?
2. Who are the hurting, the dirty and the dying in your workplace, school, neighbourhood etc. Think literally and metaphorically. People can look like they're fine but be suffering on the inside.
3. What barriers might keep you or others from getting involved?
4. What do you think God thinks/feels about these issues? You could take some time to reflect on the question right now and ask God to reveal his heart.

"The Lord will guide you always; He will satisfy your need in a sun-scorched land and will strengthen your frame. You will be like a well-watered garden, like a spring whose waters never fail."

Isa 58:11

DISCUSSION : 10 minutes

- What encouragement can you take from these verses including some just before this verse about rebuilding and restoring?
- Why is it important to stay connected to God while serving others?
- Why is prayer an essential part of addressing injustice as a Christian?
- How much do you at allow God to carry the burden of pain and injustice?

PRAYER : 15 minutes

Take some time right now to pray for the groups you identifed when talking before, e.g.

- Hurting people
- Broken families
- Community ministries

Practical activity for this week

Get involved: Is there something practical you can commit to do this week to get involved with an issue of injustice. Perhaps:

- Serving someone in need
- Supporting a local ministry
- Visiting someone who is isolated
- Giving financially
- Offering friendship and encouragement
- Advocating for someone overlooked

IF NOT - go back a step or two. Commit time to talking to God this week about what issue or people he is putting on your heart, and engage in praying intentionally into this area.

Get informed
Get prayerful
Get active