WEEK 10: WHAT IS JUSTICE TO US?

SCRIPTURE GUIDE

1 Corinthians 6:1-11

MAIN FOCUS

The standard of Justice is God; it refers to righteousness. It's not a matter of fairness or making things equal. The bible teaches us that the standard is God Himself. Justice is being aligned with God's will, not just getting what we believe we deserve.

Disputes happen, they happen with family, they happen with friends, they happen within the church. This section of scripture is not about violence or serious crimes or things that need the police. This is about disagreements, grievances, and lawsuits; things that smear people instead of being solved.

We are qualified to make judgments in these arguments. God has equipped His church with His wisdom for reconciliation. Paul notes that it is "to their shame" that this infighting cannot be resolved within the body. The church should be known for reconciliation and forgiveness.

Forgiveness is difficult. It can be challenging to accept forgiveness, and it is certainly difficult to be the giver of forgiveness, especially when it isn't asked for! Forgiveness is countercultural today, but should be the identity of those who have been forgiven for their sins.

ADDITIONAL SCRIPTURE REFERENCES

Daniel 7:22, Acts 15:39, Matthew 18:21-35

LIFE GROUP QUESTIONS

- 1. How would I describe receiving forgiveness? Do I find it easier to give or receive forgiveness?
- 2. What is the danger of bringing arguments among believers to a secular court setting?
- 3. Considering Paul's rhetorical question, "Why not rather suffer wrong?" How do I feel about my personal rights and entitlements in light of my faith?
- 4. Does the idea that I "may be the only Christian somebody meets" affect my day to day interactions with the world?
- 5. Is my identity found in reconciliation and forgiveness?
- 6. Have I ever received or given "surprise" forgiveness?
- 7. In verses 9 & 10 Paul gives a list of those who are at odds with God. How does Jesus make a way to redemption? Where have I seen redemption in my own life?

