JUSTICE

Psalm 82

What does the Bible tell us about justice? Amos 5:24 says, "Let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream!" Justice is a major theme in Scripture. The concept of justice appears over 2000 times in the Bible, and the Hebrew word "mishpat," which translates to God's justice, appears over 400 times in the Old Testament alone. God's justice is not merely about punishment or fairness, but about setting things right—lifting the oppressed, restoring relationships, and ensuring that every person is treated with dignity, equity, and compassion. Throughout Scripture, God's justice flows from His character and calls people to actively pursue righteousness, mercy, and the protection of the vulnerable.

☐ Monday: Read Psalm 82:1-2.

Where do you see unjust leadership, partiality to the wicked, or indifference to injustice in our world today?

□ Tuesday: Read Psalm 82:3-4.

The Psalmist speaks of the weak, the orphan, the poor, the oppressed, and the needy. What is our responsibility toward them as the people of God, as the Church?

☐ Wednesday: Read Psalm 82:5.

What are the consequences when justice is not upheld, according to this verse? What happens to a society when truth is distorted or justice is ignored?

☐ Thursday: Read Psalm 82:6-8.

Why is it important to affirm God as judge when facing injustice? How does trusting in God's ultimate justice give you courage to act toward justice now?

☐ Friday: Read Isaiah 1:16-17.

What does it look like to "learn" justice, rather than assume we already know it? Which of the actions listed—seeking justice, defending the oppressed, taking up the cause of the orphan—resonates most with you right now, and why?

☐ Saturday: Read Luke 4:14-21.

In what ways can your life reflect Jesus' commitment to proclaiming good news to the poor and freedom to the oppressed?

It's tempting and sometimes easy to look around our world and wonder where, how, and even if God is present in the midst of injustice. The 82nd Psalm is a prophetic witness for justice, asking God to intercede on behalf of the needs of an oppressed humanity while also affirming God's involvement with that humanity. God is the supreme authority over every power system, and God's sovereignty is the antidote to systems of oppression.

The Bible calls us to confront oppression and seek justice.