

Meeting 9.2



Module 9 outcome: The disciple commits to being a tangible part of the solution for an injustice in the world.

DISCUSS the “Generous Justice” sermon and journaling responses using the guide below:

1. What were your first thoughts as you listened to this message? What stood out to you?
2. Keller explains, “All other religions say, ‘Live as you ought and God will accept and bless you.’ But the gospel says, ‘Receive his acceptance and blessing as a gift through what Jesus Christ did on the cross and then and only then will you live as you ought. Not live as you ought and get the blessing. Get the blessing through Jesus Christ as a free gift, and then live as you ought.’”

This illustrates two approaches to “doing the right thing”. What are the two approaches, and what motivates each one?

What makes the motivations of Jesus’ disciples unique to all other religions?

3. Justification, in short, is God’s pardon and welcome of sinners, not because of what *they* have done, but because of what *he* has done. Justice for sinners isn’t earned; it’s given. But we aren’t *only* forgiven. **READ** 2 Cor. 5:21.

The NIV says, “God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.” When we put our faith in Jesus there is an incredible exchange: our sins are no longer counted against us, and instead, we are *righteous* just like Jesus. God removes a burden we could never lift alone, and gives us a gift we could never earn.

Keller said, “When you know you’re saved by grace, you cannot be condescending [hold in contempt or judgement] to perpetrators of injustice because you know that you were the perpetrator of the ultimate injustice, which was rebelling against God, and yet God saved you.”



Think back to Module 8 and what we've learned about hospitality. There was a time when you were "out", but Jesus welcomed you in, cleaned you up, and made you a member of the family. By faith grace gave you a gift you didn't deserve. Jesus didn't give you what was *fair*, he did what was *right*.

What's the difference? Is justice about making things equal and fair, or making things right? What might that have to do with this conversation about doing justice for others?

4. **READ** Micah 6:8. Step through this passage backwards. God's people should walk humbly with him, love mercy, and do what is right. This is what God requires of us, because it is good. First, when we walk humbly with God, we walk confident that God has ultimate power and authority over everything, and he uses that power to take care of us. We don't have to be prideful, overextended, or worried. God's power won't run out, and he wants to extend it to us. Second, we are to love mercy; in other words, as we are with God, we love what he loves, and even become like him. God is full of compassion and loves to give out forgiveness for wrongs. If we are walking with God, we do the same. That leads to the third point: do what is right. This is an illustration of a full-bodied life of faith. If we do not embody all three of these things, something is wrong. But consider the language here: we *love* mercy and *do* what is right.

What motivates the acts of justice we do? Are you motivated by results, or your Redeemer?

In light of that, are you willing to commit to doing justice, even when you can't guarantee the outcome, or see the full picture like God does? If things don't appear to resolve as they "should", what was the point?

ASSIGNMENT: Complete Part 2 of the Generous Justice journaling guide located on the Module 9 resource page. Come ready to discuss your responses at your next meeting.

