

Generous Justice

by Timothy Keller

Session 1 – Generous Justice

Homework for Session 1, please read the Introduction of **Generous Justice** and look over the questions below to discuss at the next meeting.

Meeting

A. Opening Prayer – Before your discussion, have an opening prayer, asking for God’s direction and asking God to open our understanding as we read this book and study the Scriptures together.

B. Questions to consider and discuss from the Introduction

1. Do you identify with one of the people Keller writes about on pages x through *xiv*?

2. What are some injustices in our world? Have you personally witnessed an injustice? If so, explain what that was like.

3. When looking back at the Civil Rights Movement in this country, why do you suppose most Christians, particularly white, suburban one, did not support the movement? Was there another way that Christians could have responded?

4. How have you been affected by racial injustice or any other kind of injustice? Explain.

C. Closing Prayer – Either one person or offer for anyone in the group to pray.

D. Homework for Session 2 – Read Chapters 1 and 2 of **Generous Justice**

Session 2 – Generous Justice

Homework for Session 2 – Read Chapters 1 and 2 and look over the questions below.

Meeting

A. Opening Prayer

B. Questions to consider and discuss from Chapters 1 and 2

1. What does it mean to “do justice”? “love mercy”? “walk humbly with your God”? Why do you suppose these three phrases are together?

2. How are you concerned for the things that God is concerned about?

3. Why are the poor disproportionately victims of injustice?

4. In what way do you exhibit holiness and offer sacrifices to God?

5. How does God’s justice permeate your life?

C. Closing Prayer – As an individual or as a group

D. Homework for Session 3 – Read Chapters 3 and 4 of Generous Justice

Session 3 – Generous Justice

Homework for Session 3 – Read Chapters 3 and 4 and look over the questions below.

Meeting

A. Opening Prayer

B. Questions to consider and discuss from Chapters 3 and 4

1. John Newton stated (page 46), “One would almost think that Luke 14:12-14 was not considered part of God’s word, nor has any part of Jesus’ teaching been more neglected by his own people.” Why is this true or not true? Where have you seen this in your church or in your world?

2. Who owns your money and your possessions? Who decides how they are used?

3. How would you describe a good, Christian life? Where does justice fit in?

4. In light of the justice conversation in the book, what does it mean to love your neighbor? Do you have an example of when you’ve done this?

C. Closing Prayer

D. Homework for Session 4 – Read Chapters 5 and 6 of **Generous Justice**

Session 4 – Generous Justice

Homework for Session 4 – Read Chapters 5 and 6 and look over the questions below.

Meeting

A. Opening Prayer

B. Questions to consider and discuss from Chapters 5 and 6

1. What is the importance of doing justice? What motivates you to do justice”?

2. Keller relates the “imago dei” (being God’s image bearers) to civil rights. If someone asked you to tell them why every human being is of equal value and dignity, how would you answer? Are there any people that are ignored and not treated as valuable?

3. As a church, how would you describe our attitude towards justice issues? How does our church demonstrate our concern for the poor?

4. Which level of doing justice – relief, development, and social reform (on page 113 and following) – do you relate to?

5. What does living by the gospel of grace (pages 124-125) look like? In your life?

6. Tell a story of when you experienced or witnessed a situation concerning justice?

C. Closing Prayer – As an individual or as a group

D. Homework for Session 5 – Read Chapters 7 and 8 of **Generous Justice**

Session 5 – Generous Justice

Homework for Session 5 – Read Chapters 7 and 8 and look over the questions below.

Meeting

A. Opening Prayer

B. Questions to consider and discuss from Chapters 7 and 8

1. On page 163, Keller states, “no current political framework can fully convey the comprehensive Biblical vision of justice, and Christians should never identify too closely with a particular political party or philosophy.” What do you think of this quote? Why do you think he believes this?

2. How should we conduct ourselves in the public sector?

3. What issue in the public arena stirs you up? How do you act with those who oppose your stand or opinion?

4. Where is the “fabric of shalom” broken here in the Lehigh Valley? How can you get weaved into it?

5. What does it mean to “disadvantage” yourself for the weak? What would that look like for you?

6. Are you experiencing “God as supremely beautiful”? How? Does it affect your motivation to unselfish acts?

7. What direction is your attitude leaning toward the poor these days? Kind or Judgmental?

C. Closing Prayer – As an individual or as a group