SUNDAY TO SATURDAY

JUSTICE / Guided Learning path: Time



A LITURGICAL PRAYER

Almighty God, who has created man in thine own image; Grant us grace fearlessly to contend against evil, and to make no peace with oppression; and, that we may reverently use our freedom, help us to employ it in the maintenance of justice among men and nations, to the glory of thy holy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

- From The Book of Common Prayer

Sunday to Saturday is a Christian collaborative who have a passion for curating Christian media for the body of the church.

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START HERE: Whether you have 15 minutes, two hours or more we have the resource for you. Before you begin read our framework on page 3 to prepare your mind and heart before engaging in the topic. Scan the QDR code in the top right corner to engage with this learning path online.

Have 15 minutes?

□ LISTEN: Does the Bible Advocate for Social Justice? | In a pluralistic society many people have different ideas and definitions of justice. Christians must be aware of that reality. We must also be aware that justice is a unique, Biblical based concept rooted in the image of God. So, whenever we are talking about racial justice, social justice or any other type of justice, as Christians we must always be looking at justice and all its forms through a Biblical lens. This lens, rooted in the Bible, is crystal clear that we must pursue a just society that meets both the physical and the spiritual needs of all people, not just Christians.

□ <u>WATCH: Justice (The Bible Project)</u> | Professor **Tim Mackie** of Western Seminary narrates a quick sub-6 minute visually appealing video detailing the origin and nuances of justice according to the Bible.

□ **READ:** The Absence of Injustice is Not Justice | From the four gospels to Isaiah to Micah and more, the Bible paints a clear picture that Christians should pursue justice, not just with words, but with action. These actions can help repair the credibility of the church while helping marginalized groups in addition to serving as a witness to the power of the Gospel.

Have 30 minutes?

□ **WATCH: Generous Justice** | Most Christians fall into two camps - one champions justice but not justification while the other prizes justice but not justification. Theologian **Tim Keller** argues that justice and the doctrine of justification should work hand in hand.

□ LISTEN: Justin Giboney on Being Pro-life and Pro-justice Senior vice president at National Religious Broadcasters Daniel Darling and attorney and political strategist Justin Giboney knock it out of the park in what is one of the best 25-minute podcasts of all time. From the need for truth and love in politics to tribalism to human dignity to why institutions are important Giboney and Darling clearly articulate a distinct, unique vision for a Christian who is engaged in politics and pursuing justice.
Have 1 hour?
□ READ: What Do We Mean When We Talk About Justice? Justice seems to be a universal term. A term that everyone knows and that is generally agreed upon. But since most Christians have not been discipled in biblical justice, we bring in non-Biblical definitions and assumptions when discussing justice. To learn about Biblical justice pastor Thabiti Anyabwile suggests that we must first have a heart check. This is part of a superb eight-part series.
LISTEN: What is Biblical Justice? (Jude 3 Project) In a roundtable discussion Dr. Charlie Dates, Dr. Yolanda Pierce, Dr. Nicole Massie Martin, and Jemar Tisby discuss a number of questions regarding justice including what justice is, how to live in tension in a society that will never be perfect and yet as Christians we are called to change, when to use power and/or protest, what reparations could look like and why the Bible provides us with the unique framework to overcome injustice and prevent those in power from abusing it. The highlights include the nuanced talk of violence (18:10) and reparations (32:10).
Want a deep dive? □ WATCH: Justice and God's Story A thought provoking and challenging three-part series that shows, but never in
a heavy-handed way, how important justice is to God. Runs 120 total minutes.
□ LISTEN: What is Biblical Justice (The Bible Project) A four-part series, including a question-and-answer session, that takes a theological deep dive into Biblical justice. The 193 total minutes are not for the faint of heart, but if you can make it through you will have a thorough understanding of Biblical justice.

THE SUNDAY TO SATURDAY FRAMEWORK

<u>Our framework</u> begins with the foundational doctrine of the Imago Dei (Gen. 1:27) - that humans are unique and created in the image of God. This doctrine of respect and dignity permeates every step of Sunday to Saturday's approach to learning about a topic.

When this doctrine is applied, it forces us into tension, which then requires nuance. This tension and nuance manifests itself in a both/and worldview as opposed to an either/or worldview. For example, you can be an advocate for the police <u>and</u> for police reform.

The framework consists of four stages/steps: pray, learn, pause, and engage.

These four stages are not fixed and you will move back and forth from one stage to the other throughout your life. You may stay in one stage for months or even years. At other times it may be a blend of multiple stages.



The colors of each step are specifically chosen to correspond to liturgical colors. Pray and pause are purple -- purple represents preparation. Learn and engage are green -- green represents growth. Gold represents glory.

THE STAGES

1. **PRAY**: Each topic begins with a liturgical prayer that we find useful when engaging with that particular subject. When you pray, ask God to soften your heart and sharpen your mind.

GUIDING VERSE: Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know. -- Jeremiah 33:3 (NIV)

2. <u>LEARN</u>: Knowledge is power. We have already spent hundreds of hours curating content – use our <u>guided</u> <u>learning paths</u> and <u>five questions</u> as starting points on your journey.

GUIDING VERSE: Let the wise listen and add to their learning, and let the discerning get guidance. -- Proverbs 1:5 (NIV)

3. PAUSE: It is important to stop, pray, and reflect on what you have learned. Pausing should be done after each piece of media you consume, but it is also useful to stop every few weeks or months to take a break, rest, and reflect.

GUIDING VERSE: Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him and he will make your paths straight. -- Proverbs 3:5-6 (NIV)

ENGAGE: When you feel ready, engage with neighbors, family and friends - but do not rush into this step. Know that you are going to mess up, that doesn't mean quitting, that means adjusting and probably moving back into steps 1-3 before moving back to step 4.

GUIDING VERSE: Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it—not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it—they will be blessed in what they do. -- James 1:22-25 (NIV)

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