



REPLENISHED – Justice Matters 30th May 2021 Mark Wiltshire

This Study Guide provides a summarised study with additional discussion questions based on the scriptures mentioned in the sermon.

Connect:

1. Why “justice”? Why does justice matter?

Be it a courtroom, at work, or in the street, we want to be treated fairly. We shouldn't be judged more harshly because of our race, gender, religion, or any other reason. We must stand for Justice – God's way.

Pastor Mark Wiltshire

2. Have you ever felt like giving up? Why did you feel that way?

Engage:

3. Read [Luke 18:1-5](#)
 - This parable has similarities with the Parable of the Persistent Friend ([Luke 11:5-8](#)) – it focusses on praying persistently about general prayer.
 - This Parable is set in a city (centre of culture/trade/government) and specifically attached to the subject of Justice.
 - Two Characters, vulnerable widow and a godless judge (who was breaking the law).
 - Jesus taught us that the Greatest Commandments: Love God, Love People - The judge neither feared God nor cared about people.
4. Why is persistence in prayer important?
5. Why do we struggle to persist in prayer?
6. What can you do to be more persistent?
7. What were the excuses?

Framework:

8. Returning to Luke 18:1-5
 - Prayer has the incredible Power to see justice take place
 - Justice will always find a voice; even through the weakest, most vulnerable person
 - Justice can be achieved even through the toughest barriers, but it may take time ‘[he rendered a just decision in the end](#)’

- God is the opposite of the unjust judge; He wants to see justice happen impartially.
- 9. What kind of unjust situations have you come across personally?
- 10. What was your response?

“If one of us is denied justice, none of us can ignore it, if one of us isn’t safe, none of us is safe, and if one of us can be abused, all of us will lose.”

Rick Warren

- 11. Why is God passionate?
 - Read [Isaiah 61:8](#) - It’s who God is – His character. He wants to be involved in resolving unjust situations.
- 12. Where is God seated?
 - Read [Psalm 89:14](#) – A throne is the seat of power – His power operates in places where justice is needed.
- 13. What is God actively doing?
 - Read [Matthew 12:18](#) – Jesus makes this statement about Himself (people are looking to unjustly trap Him). He quotes Isaiah 42:1-4; verse 4 specifically states, “[He will not falter or lose heart until justice prevails throughout the earth.](#)”
- 14. When we pray into areas of justice, God loves it! His power is working to expose and move against INJUSTICE: **God always answers prayer** – but not the way we expect!
- 15. Is there an area of injustice that needs prayer right now?

16. Justice is... A Personal Response:

<p>Satisfies Us: “God blesses those who hunger and thirst for justice, for they will be satisfied.” Matthew 5:6 NLT</p>	<p>Justice and Righteousness are connected</p> <p>The word satisfied means to be ‘fully fed with food’</p>
<p>Rewards Us: “Follow justice and justice alone, so that you may live, and possess the land the Lord your God is giving you.” Deuteronomy 16:20 NIV</p>	<p>God will guide our future and destiny as we live choose to live with a heart for justice</p>
<p>Protects Us: “For the Lord loves justice, and he will never abandon the godly. He will keep them safe forever.” Psalm 37:28 NLT</p>	<p>Even though we experience difficulties, we are protected and kept by God in this life and for eternity as we trust in Him</p>
<p>We are made righteous by faith in Christ</p> <p>“This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe.” Romans 3:22 NIV</p>	



<p>“The righteous shall live by faith...” Galatians 3:11</p>	
<p>But we must also always try to do what is right (choose to live righteously)</p> <p>“Do to others as you would want them to do to you...” Matthew 7:12</p>	

17. Justice is... A Public Response:

<p>An Act of Worship: “Learn to do good. Seek <u>justice</u>. Help the oppressed. Defend the cause of orphans. Fight for the rights of widows.” Isaiah 1:17 NLT</p>	<p>God rejects our worship that ignores the practical responsibility of justice – how we respond really matters to God</p>
<p>A Voice of Hope: “Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves; ensure <u>justice</u> for those being crushed. Yes, speak up for the poor and helpless, and see that they get <u>justice</u>.” Proverbs 31:8-9 NLT</p>	<p>Wherever there are people You WILL find injustice</p> <p>Our response should always be “Deeply Spiritual and Deeply Practical”</p>

18. Who are those in our world that have no voice?

19. Read [James 5:16](#)