

THE JUSTICE THREAD

The Bible is the foundation for our faith and gives us the vision that compels us to work for a better world. It tells the story of generations of God's people; people getting it wrong and having to start again. People who need constant reminders about the big picture of how to live well, how to love God and love each other. From start to finish, a prominent thread running through the Bible is of a loving God, willing people to **love each other in order to bring the Kingdom to earth.**

Explore our new series of resources that look at justice through the Bible: six sessions taking you from Genesis to Revelation, picking up one unifying thread.

Read the Bible, discuss the issues; continue the story.

The Justice Thread sessions, and lots of other inspiring and challenging resources, are available as free downloads from **christianaidcollective.org**

'The Bible alone isn't enough. It is necessary that the church take up the Bible again and make it living word... The Bible is like a spring where this revelation, the word of God, is preserved. But of what use is that spring, as clear as it might be, if we aren't going to put it in our pitchers and take it home to use for our needs there?'

Archbishop Oscar Romero

christian aid
collective

1**IN THE BEGINNING**

In Genesis, we read that all of God's creation is good. We get a glimpse of Eden – life as it was created to be: life in God and with God, where God and people walk together in harmony with creation.

2**A PEOPLE SET APART**

We meet Moses who, appalled by the violence and abuse forced on the Israelites, leads them to freedom and entrusts them with laws to allow them to live differently, set apart from the exploitation around them.

3**A PROPHETIC GENERATION**

We hear the cry of the prophets, who protest about cruelty and injustice, speak out against acts of discrimination, and highlight the hypocrisy of religious ritual that does nothing to defend the poor.

4**WHAT DID JESUS LIVE FOR?**

Throughout the Gospels, Jesus shows compassion for the poor, willingness to meet those that others ignore, ability to confront injustice that he sees and to challenge the status quo. He shows us what it means to be the good news to the poor, and calls on us to be a good neighbour.

5**LIFE IN COMMUNITY**

We hear how the early church establishes itself as a community that comes together and makes sure that no one is left in need; that faith alone is useless without action and that to care for the vulnerable is religion at its purest.

6**BRING ON A BETTER WORLD**

Finally, in Revelation, we return to the vision of a world in harmony. People had forgotten what it looked like to live in the way of Jesus and had been sucked into the way of the Roman Empire – an empire in which the rich got richer at the expense of the poor. John writes an urgent plea to the church to stop taking part in injustice, and he invites them to imagine a new world – a better world. In that world, all can reach out and drink from the water of life, and all can share the peace of life in which there is no more pain.

In order to save ink, these resources will automatically print without the background colour.