

OUTRAGEOUS JUSTICE STUDY GUIDE SUMMARY

SESSION ONE: JUSTICE THAT RESTORES

The Bible clearly teaches that God is outraged by injustice and calls His people to take action to address it. But, given the millions of individuals and families touched by crime and incarceration in America, and the complexities of our criminal justice system, how can the followers of Jesus take action to pursue justice that restores?

SESSION TWO: JUSTICE THAT RESPONDS

The Bible tells us to follow the laws of the land, and to do what is right. But it also clearly calls us to not just avoid wrongdoing, but to advocate for justice, to speak up against injustice, and to visit prisoners. We are called to practice a justice that responds.

SESSION THREE: JUSTICE THAT LISTENS

To advocate for criminal justice means to be a voice for those who are affected by crime and incarceration, including victims who often feel ignored. But before we can speak or know how to respond, we must learn to listen to—and really hear—what those harmed by crime are saying.

SESSION FOUR: JUSTICE THAT FITS

The criminal justice system has gotten off track, but we can all help bring about change through advocacy. God cares about justice and fairness in our institutions. We shouldn't turn a blind eye to over-incarceration and unfair sentencing. We need to speak up to make sure punishment fits the crime, and alternatives to incarceration are pursued when appropriate.

SESSION FIVE: JUSTICE THAT TRANSFORMS

Jails and prisons need not be warehouses for human beings. Correctional facilities can be places that bring about positive change and enable people to leave as good neighbors and good citizens, rather than just entrenching their criminal mindset and behavior. When God's people take persistent, courageous action to bring about change, prisons can become places of restoration and renewal.

SESSION SIX: JUSTICE THAT REDEEMS

It's one thing to tell people about a "new life" on a spiritual level, but what about on a community level? Once someone has made amends for their past wrongdoing and repented, are we willing to extend a hand in practical ways? Are we, who have been given a second chance, willing to give similar opportunities to others who only want to reach their full potential?