

Life Group Discussion Guide: The Justice of God

Scripture Focus: Jeremiah 12:1-17

Ice Breakers

- When you were a child, what was one thing you felt was "totally unfair"?
 - If you could have an answer to any "Why?" question from God, what would it be?
 - What is a "win" you have experienced this week that felt like a gift from God?
 - Jeremiah talks about "running with footmen" (v. 5). What is the most physically or mentally exhausting thing you've done recently?
 - **In:** What is something that is currently heavy on your heart?
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UP: Knowing Jesus Intimately

Focus: Our vertical relationship with God and trusting His character.

1. Jeremiah begins by acknowledging God is righteous, yet he still brings his "case" before Him (v. 1). How does this model a "vertical relationship" that is both respectful and raw?
 2. God responds to Jeremiah's complaint not with an explanation, but with a challenge to prepare for harder things (v. 5). What has this revealed about how God grows your faith?
 3. How does knowing that Jesus is the ultimate Judge provide peace when you see injustice in the world today?
 4. What is something you're pretty sure God has asked you to do regarding trusting Him in a difficult season, yet it still needs to be done?
 5. What's a small step you can take towards resting in God's sovereignty and obedience this week?
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IN: Being Known Authentically

Focus: Sharing life and "doing life" together in a communal way.

1. Jeremiah felt abandoned even by his own family (v. 6). How can our life group be a place where we "practice the mission" of being a true family to one another?
2. When you feel like "the wicked prosper," how does being part of this group help you keep a biblical perspective?
3. God speaks of His "inheritance" with deep emotion (v. 7). What is something the group doesn't know about your own journey of feeling valued or "claimed" by God?
4. Since we are communal beings made for friendship, how can we better "share a meal" or "do life" together to support those in our group facing hardship?

5. What is something you are currently praying for regarding justice or fairness in your personal life?
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OUT: Making Jesus Known Practically

Focus: Looking out to neighbors and friends to make the "rubber hit the road."

1. God promises that even "evil neighbors" can be restored if they learn His ways (v. 16). Who is someone the Lord brings to mind that seems "far off" from God but needs His mercy?
2. How can we as a group be a "blessing to those around us" who are currently suffering from unfair circumstances?
3. Assuming you had the skills and time, how would you explain God's justice and mercy to a neighbor who is angry at God?
4. How might you be able to get to know the needs and prayer requests of your neighbors who are struggling with "the way of the wicked"?
5. Who are you currently praying for to begin a relationship with Jesus, acknowledging that His justice eventually leads to His invitation?