

4. What damage is done when Christians fail to pursue justice—damage to the church, to younger believers, to our walk with Christ, to our world?

5. The stories about the pastor who died for not saluting and Pastor Henry's feelings about the George Floyd encampment illustrate unity without uniformity. What is an example in your life of something where you disagree with the tactics but can be united with those applying those tactics?

6. What is an important lesson you learned in this series?

Justice (A Story of God Series)

"How Now Should We Approach Restorative Justice? (Acts – Revelation)"

Multiple Selected Passages

July 3/4, 2021

"I found myself when I said that I trust my pastor more than I trust this professor." (Esau McCaulley)

How Now Should We Approach Restorative Justice?

1. Pursue restorative _____ for the oppressed and vulnerable.

Acts 2:5-11

Acts 4:32-35

Acts 6:1-4

Galatians 2:9-10

1 Corinthians 11:17-32

Philemon 1:15-16

James 1:9-11

James 1:27

James 2:1-7

James 5:1-6

“The ‘anti-racist’ agenda is a secular attempt to plug a long-standing gap in western Christianity. ...If it has taken modern secular movements to jolt the church into recognising a long-standing problem, shame on us. But the answer is not to capitulate to the current ‘identity agenda’, and then to enforce it with breast-beating, finger-wagging neo-moralism. ...The answer is teaching and practising the whole biblical gospel.” (N.T. Wright)

2. Live in light of God’s end-time _____ of all things. (Revelation 7:9)

The vision of the book of Revelation where a multi-ethnic, multi-cultural, and multi-racial throng worships God is a picture of what we should be living out now whenever possible. And the human _____ depicted in the closing chapters of Revelation should be what we seek now.

3. Seek unity in pursuing justice without demanding _____. (Ephesians 2:11-22)

This is so hard to do—to stay united when disagreeing on strategy and tactics. But it’s all part of the package when we do the Great _____:

Micah 6: ⁸ He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

Which of the three requirements is missing or on life support in your life?

Personal Reflection & Small Group Questions

Please complete this study on your own, then bring it to your small group for discussion.

1. Looking back over your notes from this week’s sermon, what particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

2. Choose and read any three passages from point 1 in the sermon, and list some of the lessons regarding restorative justice you discern in them.

3. Why do think so many Christians are unaware of or unresponsive to what the Bible teaches on restorative justice?