



FUTURE CHURCH
GCF Missions Month 2020

How Should We Live in an Unjust World?

Micah 6:8

July 19, 2020 | Message Guide





How Should We Live in an Unjust World?

TODAY'S MESSAGE | 19 JULY 2020 | MICAH 6:8

We live in a world filled with all kinds of injustice:

- Economic injustice
- Consolidation of power
- Racial injustice
- Cheating, betrayal and deceit
- Profiling
- Corruption and bribery
- Violence and oppression

Four important responses to injustice

1. **Lament:** a passionate expression of grief
2. **Righteous Indignation:** "There is such a thing as a false composure which is quite unchristian" (Bonhoeffer)
3. **Faith-ful Waiting:** It's Friday, but Sunday's coming!
4. **Living Differently**

How do we live differently in an unjust world?

While waiting, while lamenting and being indignant, how then should we live?

Do justice

- Doing justice is about reclaiming, rebuilding, and nurturing shalom and wholeness between God, one another, ourselves, and all of creation.
- Justice is different from equality or fairness. Sometimes to be just may not be equal, because the vulnerable and those with special needs may need extra care, attention, support and resources.

Love mercy

- Mercy is *chesed*. To love mercy is to reflect God's image, for God is *chesed* (**MATTHEW 18:22, LUKE 10:25-37**).
- In Vincent van Gogh's painting, *The Good Samaritan*, the namesake subject faces the wounded traveler face to face, body to body, and embraces him. He strains under the dead weight of the wounded man as he lifts him to his own donkey.
 - Acts of mercy and compassion cost us dearly, and require great strength and determination.
- But as we commit—over and over again—to offer others mercy, we are connecting to the taproot of who we truly are. We have mercy and compassion in our DNA as image-

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bearers. We have tasted mercy and compassion ourselves. Mercy and compassion are who we most truly and deeply are, but often need “dusting off”.

Walk humbly

- We cannot walk humbly with God but be arrogant with others. We cannot act humbly with others but hide pride in our hearts towards God. How we do one thing is how we do everything.
- Jesus walked humbly (**PHILIPPIANS 2:5-8**). To walk humbly, as Jesus walked, means taking up our cross daily and following Jesus.

Counterintuitive and counter-cultural

- Not having all the answers
- Not being able to fix everything
- Listening first and longest
- Receiving as well as giving
- Being ready to un-learn and re-learn
- Becoming comfortable with not enough being enough
- Even being led to where we may not want to go

Conclusion

We are admonished to not love the world or anything in the world (**CF. EPHESIANS 2:1-3 AND 1 JOHN 2:15-17**). But this has been misinterpreted and misunderstood, and has led us to an isolated, detached, indifferent *contemptus mundi* (hate of the world).

We are called to *amor mundi*, love of the world.

We are the hands and feet of Jesus in the world. We are to love the world so deeply, so radically, so practically that we spend ourselves on behalf of the poor. Do justice. Love and dispense mercy. Walk humbly with God on the face of this earth.

It is too easy to walk by on the other side of the road. God wants to break my heart and your heart so that they are open and enlarged and soft enough to contain the wounded persons on the side of the road, and the keeper of the inn, and even the donkey and the robbers! ■

Discussion Questions

1. What current situation of injustice in the community or in the country seems to stand out to me, to which God may be nudging or inviting me to feel more personally, understand more deeply, and seek to be involved in?
2. Share about a person to whom God may be inviting you to express mercy to, and how specifically you would like to do that?
3. Where do you struggle the most to walk humbly (a situation, a relationship, etc.)? You may write a letter to God, prayerfully compose a poem or do a drawing/painting to express how you feel about this, and then sit quietly and listen to how God may be present to you or respond to you.

THE CHURCH ONLINE

CARING FOR THE URBAN YOUTH

July 22 (Wed), 6:30 p.m., Chismissions/Webinar on GCF Facebook Page

REMINDERS OF GOD'S CARE AND FAITHFULNESS

Mondays and Fridays, 7:00 p.m., GCF Facebook Page

LIVestream (GCF Youth LIVE Worship)

Saturdays, 5:00 p.m. on youtube.com/user/gcfyouthlive

KIDS' L.I.F.E. ONLINE SUNDAY SCHOOL

Uploaded every Sunday, 1:00 p.m. on youtube.com/user/gcfmain

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

For offerings during this time, please consider the following options:

BANK DEPOSIT OR TRANSFER

Account Name: Greenhills Christian Fellowship, Inc.

- **BDO** (BDO Corporate Center Branch) Savings Account 000661590216
- **China Bank** (Ortigas ADB Branch) Savings Account 1112-02006218
- **UnionBank** (UB Plaza Branch) Checking Account 0005-9001-0426
- **Robinsons Bank** (Main Office Branch) Savings Account 1000-3010-0017-355
- **Metrobank** (Ortigas Sapphire Branch) Savings Account 629-3-62919733-9
- **GCash (L) and PayMaya (R)** (Scan QR code below)



CREDIT/DEBIT CARD THROUGH PAYPAL

Please visit www.gcf.org.ph/give for instructions.

Please email a copy of your transaction document to finance@gcf.org.ph so your giving can be properly recorded and an official receipt can be sent to you.

COVID-19 EMERGENCY RESPONSE EFFORTS

You may also designate your giving to our church's efforts to help frontliners and the vulnerable. Just indicate "For COVID-19 fund" when you email your transaction document ■



Greenhills Christian Fellowship
Know Christ and Make Him Known

Ruby cor. Garnet Roads, Ortigas Center, Pasig City, 1605

☎ (02) 8632 1354 to 56, (02) 8635 0078 to 80, (02) 8635 0082 to 83

☎ Fax No. (02) 8632 1357, Monday to Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

✉ email@gcf.org.ph 🌐 gcf.org.ph 📱 Greenhills Christian Fellowship