

SPEAK UP: A RESPONSE TO INJUSTICE

Deut. 27:19, Ps. 82:3, Isa. 1:17, Jer. 22:3, Zech. 7:10, Prov. 31:8-9, John 13:34-35

1. SOCIAL JUSTICE IS NOT A POLITICAL ISSUE, IT'S A THEOLOGICAL ISSUE
2. WHITE PRIVILEGE DOESN'T MEAN YOU'VE HAD EVERYTHING HANDED TO YOU; IT MEANS YOUR SKIN COLOR DIDN'T HINDER YOU
3. THREE RESPONSES TO INJUSTICE
 - MOURN WITH THOSE WHO MOURN
 - LISTEN
 - SPEAK-UP

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What part of this past Sunday's teaching stood out most to you? Why?
2. Church should be the best place to have conversations on difficult topics without becoming angry or bitter toward one another. Unfortunately, that isn't always the case. What are some things we can do that will help us be better at seeking to understand before being understood?
3. How have the events of the past few weeks and Pastor Ryan's message from Sunday affected your perspective on social justice and white privilege?
4. Social justice is not a political issue; it's a theological issue. What is God's heart surrounding social justice (see Deut. 27:19, Ps. 82:3, Isa. 1:17, Jer. 22:3, Zech. 7:10)? What are some ways that your view of social justice aligns with God's? What are some ways that you could grow in this area?
5. Pastor Ryan spoke about the need to "mourn with those who mourn" (Romans 12:15) when it comes to how the church should behave towards injustice. This means we should never deflect away from the cause of hurt in someone's life. What does it mean to "mourn with those who mourn" in what is happening in the world right now? How can we be doing this as a church?
6. Proverbs 31:8-9 shows us that God wants His people to "speak up" against injustice. What does it look like to speak up against injustice as a Christian? What are some ideas for how we can do this well?
7. List some examples from Jesus' life where He interacted with or discussed minorities. What are some things we can learn from the way Jesus treated minorities?
8. This weekend our church will be hosting a pop-up pantry at our facility! A pop-up pantry is a way of making food and essential resources more readily available to the people in our community. So on Saturday, June 13 from 10:30 am to 2:30 pm, our facility will become a pop-up pantry stocked with food and other essential items that will be available to anyone who needs them. To see how you can get involved and serve like Jesus visit Severn.cc/Fill-the-Pantry.