# FOUNDATIONS FOR JUSTICE

LEADER GUIDE

**common**good

# FOR JUSTICE

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# DEAR SMALL GROUP LEADER

Thank you for being willing to lead this course term version of the Foundations for Justice! We are thrilled that your small group's contribution is being woven into a bigger vision for Social Justice that we have as a church.

Foundations for Justice is a resource of Common Good that the eldership of your congregation has discerned should be run across all small groups as a course term. It is a simplified version of the Justice Journey. We are trusting that this course term will teach, inspire and mobilise participants on their journey of living social justice – whether they are just setting out, or if they have been social justice champions for many years.

Should you feel that you need to deepen your own reservoir on the topic of social justice, you can look at various resources (book chapters, sermons, blogs, news articles, videos) that are on the Just Church website that Common Good maintains. See http://www.justchurch.co.za/.

Conversations during this journey may surface important and potentially difficult topics like racism, division, reconciliation, restitution, white privilege, gender and domestic violence, inequality (to name a few) that cannot be fully explored in the outcomes and limited time frame of this course term. We acknowledge that these themes are extremely relevant but require more focused attention and dialogue. This journey seeks to provide a common foundation on which deeper learning and engagement should take place. Having a strong understanding of what God says in His word about social justice, understanding His heart for our context and having fresh conviction around His call to us as believers to engage is essential for any deeper engagement around a specific issue. We suggest that when confronting and discussing the social injustices in post-apartheid South Africa, you acknowledge these issues and encourage participants to engage with these topics more deeply as one of their personal next steps.

Remember that justice is rooted in God's mission and his overflowing love for all people. Therefore we don't need to become anxious but simply learn to listen to Him and follow his word and the leading of the Holy Spirit on this journey. Also, remember that we follow him not on our own but in community with fellow Christ followers where there are safety and strength. So be encouraged and encourage your group to bring their 'loaves and fish' humbly and prayerfully before the Lord and see where he leads and what he does with them! We are praying that God works powerfully in and through you as you lead your group on this exciting journey.

For His glory, THE COMMON GOOD TEAM

# FOUNDATIONS FOR JUSTICE OVERVIEW

# THE PURPOSE OF THE FOUNDATIONS FOR JUSTICE COURSE IS TO INSPIRE AND HELP PARTICIPANTS TO LIVE SOCIAL JUSTICE.

By the end of the course, participants will:

- have a deeper biblical understanding and motivation for pursuing social justice;
- better understand the context of our city and the importance of engaging and responding with gospel-fuelled hope;
- have identified some next steps in their own journey of pursuing justice.

### STRUCTURE AND TOOLS:

The Foundations for Justice course is designed to be run in small groups over a three-week period and consists of 3 SESSIONS of 90 MINUTES EACH, followed by devotional readings to guide individual biblical study and reflection on the topic of social justice.

### EACH SESSION CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING STEPS:

Step 1: A brief Introduction to the evening

Steps 2 – 4: Three brief video teachings, each followed by a discussion Step 5: Prayer

Step 6: Closing

### THE FOLLOWING TOOLS ARE PROVIDED:

Videos provide the teaching content.

**Devotional Guide:** A 15 day devotional guide to assist participants with deeper biblical learning and engaging with God over issues of justice. The guide is designed to stimulate prayer and reflection in the week following each session.

### YOUR PREPARATION

**Reflect on your own journey of justice:** Take some time to think about where you find yourself on this topic and how you feel about leading your small group through this journey towards justice. Perhaps you feel jaded, cynical, excited, fearful, passionate, inspired or completely overwhelmed. No matter where you find yourself, ask God to freshly ignite your own conviction levels around this being a gospel imperative for all believers and ask for grace and guidance to lead your group. **Prepare well before each session:** Work through the relevant session, watch the videos and be clear on how you will facilitate discussion. Use the devotional guide during the week following each session so that you are engaging with the topic in the same way as your group members are.

**Pray:** Prayer is crucial when dealing with the topic of justice. Pray before and throughout the course for your group to be people who light candles in the darkness caused by injustice and who understand and are motivated by gospel hope. Pray that you would all have the eyes to see what God is doing in and around you and what he is calling you to.

**Don't feel the pressure:** Perhaps you don't feel qualified or experienced enough to facilitate this journey. Relax! It does not matter where you are on your own journey of justice because every Christ follower has a next step. Leading from a place of vulnerability – acknowledging how far you still have to go - will set the scene for honest and authentic dialogue.

**Facilitation Tips:** Model humility and vulnerability: this is a complex subject that will raise more questions than answers. You won't have all the answers – rather acknowledge the complexity of the subject and encourage participants to explore their questions further (with God and the bible first and foremost and then with trusted voices). This is the start of a conversation in your group and a continuation of a journey God has us all on as He makes our hearts more like His.

This is a life long journey: acknowledge that participants will be on different parts of the journey. Encourage participants to constantly be seeking the next step of their journey. Encourage people to not be judgmental of those who are earlier on their journey.

Be very aware that there may be people in your group or congregation who are suffering from the very injustices you will be discussing. Recognise their story but don't pressure them to share more than they are willing to share.

Be aware of "the tyranny of the articulate": the most articulate people can often dominate a discussion. The quietest people in the group may have equally valid contributions. Encourage these contributions. Start the journey by stating that you will be facilitating in such a way that all voices are heard.

**Prayer:** In each session time has been allocated to include praying together. You may want to spend longer in prayer and can structure it in whichever way will best serve your group – pairs, small groups or as a whole group. You may find it helpful to include current social justice issues as points of prayer.

If conversations get heated: acknowledge the 'hot topic'. Celebrate the grappling. Encourage the conversation to continue but outside of the allocated group time.

**Topics of racism:** As we talk about justice in the South African context, we cannot separate out racial justice. We cannot adequately deal with these crucial issues in this course. We trust this course gives you handles to engage with topics within racial justice – and take another step in that journey.

**Please make the scripts your own:** throughout this guide, we have scripted various sessions to give you an idea of what communication points should be covered. They are in italic font. Please don't read these! Please use these scripts as a general guideline and communicate these points in your own way and style.

# **SESSION 1** A HEART FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

### THE BIG IDEA

God's love for justice is grounded in his love for the victims of Injustice. As Tim Keller says: "If a person has grasped the meaning of God's grace in his heart, he will do justice. If he doesn't live justly, then he may say with his lips that he is grateful for God's grace, but in his heart he is far from him. If he doesn't care about the poor, it reveals that at best he doesn't understand the grace he has experienced, and at worst he has not really encountered the saving mercy of God. Grace should make you just."

### WHY THIS TOPIC

The call to love those suffering from poverty and injustice can be hard to put into practice. Frequently Christ followers describe feeling guilty, overwhelmed, jaded, ignorant, fed up or indifferent when it comes to pursuing social justice. Embracing this call and overcoming the temptation towards self-preservation and comfort requires deep conviction fuelled by biblical motivation.

### AIMS OF THIS SESSION

As a result of this session, participants will:

- have a biblical definition of social justice and will understand God's heart for justice, the vulnerable and marginalised;
- be aware of a broader definition of poverty than material poverty alone, and will understand its link to injustice;
- have reflected on Godly and personal motivations for responding to injustice.

### SESSION AT A GLANCE

This session consists of the following steps:

| Introduction | Defining Social Justice | Understanding Poverty | Motivations for Social justice | Prayer time | Closing |
|--------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|-------------|---------|
| 10 mins      | 20 mins                 | 20 mins               | 25 mins                        | 10 mins     | 5 mins  |

### YOU WILL NEED THE FOLLOWING VIDEOS TO PLAY DURING THE SESSION:

| Video 1.1               | Video 1.2        | Video 1.3                     |
|-------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|
| What is social justice? | What is poverty? | Motivations for doing justice |

### SESSION 1: STEP 1 INTRODUCTION 10 MINS

PURPOSE: To provide a clear outline of the Foundations for Justice course generally and of this session in particular.

### INTRODUCE THE FOUNDATIONS FOR JUSTICE COURSE:

SAY: It is difficult to live in South Africa without being aware of the numerous social injustices that many people our nation experience on a daily basis. Many Christians would agree that the call to 'love our neighbours as ourselves' and address injustice is part of what it means to be a Christ follower. Most would also agree that responding is hard. The temptation towards self-preservation and comfort (perhaps fuelled by entitlement and greed), the complexity of the issues at hand, the extent of pain, suffering and violence, and lack of biblical motivation often results in us feeling overwhelmed, fearful, stuck, disempowered and sometimes even indifferent.

Through this journey, it is my hope that we will freshly discover a biblical, gospel-fuelled response to the needs and opportunities where God has placed us, as well some insights that will help us to respond in a way that will do more good than harm.

Social justice is a complex topic –this journey may surface things that you haven't processed with others before. Some people have grappled a lot whilst others are starting out. Let's support each other to take whatever our next step should be. The format of the course will include video clips, some discussion and reflection. You have each received a Devotional Guide which provides you with 15 days of devotional content (5 devotions per week over the next 3 weeks.) We will start with Day 1 tomorrow. There is space next to each day's devotion for you to make prayer and reflection notes. Let's all commit to completing these devotions in the week to come, to give greater scriptural depth to our weekly discussions.

Due to the nature and particular driving forces of injustice in our country; race, racial injustice, reconciliation, restitution, gender based violence, abuse of woman and children and other related topics may come up in our discussions. These are all issues of social injustice and it is critical that we explore these topics as we seek to do justice. The scope of this course, however, is not to explore individual issues of social justice, but to provide a biblical foundation for the broader topic of social justice which can be seen as the bedrock to the change of our mind-sets, and result in a biblically empowered response to these issues. We want God's voice to be the loudest as we grapple with the specific issues of injustice in our society. It is hoped that you will be inspired in your personal life to explore any particular issues that God puts on your heart that may arise during this course. Feel free to engage the SJM and eldership team in your questioning. We cannot have the full conversation that these topics demand, but we are hoping that we have a new framework and a biblical perspective to know how to engage. Keep engaging, learning, reading and listening if you feel you want more info. Have a look at www. justchurch.co.za for more resources.

Finally – it would be great if we could have really honest conversations here. Recognising that we have come from different backgrounds, try to suspend judgement. Confidentiality is important. We need everyone to commit to creating a safe environment for anyone to share his or her honest opinions. If there is something that concerns you, consult the individual personally and do not involve other people.

### INTRODUCE THIS SESSION:

SAY: In this first session, we will be starting our Foundations for Justice course with a biblical perspective of social justice and poverty, as well as considering our, and God's, motivations for engaging in issues of injustice.

### SESSION 1: STEP 2 DEFINING SOCIAL JUSTICE 20 MINS

PURPOSE: To provide a biblical definition of social justice.

### INTRODUCE THE TOPIC (DISCUSSION)

ASK: When I say the phrase "social justice" – what comes to mind? Answer with just 1 or 2 words – no more. It might be a picture; it might be how the phrase makes you feel. (Allow  $\pm$  5mins for everyone to share)

TIP: Acknowledge their answers, but don't elaborate - in order to save time.

### DEFINING SOCIAL JUSTICE (VIDEO & DISCUSSION)

SAY: The term social justice is thrown around and it is so important that we are working off the same biblical definition as we engage with this topic.

PLAY: Video 1.1 - 'What is Social Justice?' (±5mins)

DISCUSS THE QUESTION: What stood out for you from this video? (allow  $\pm$  10mins)

### SESSION 1: STEP 3 UNDERSTANDING POVERTY 20 MINS

PURPOSE: To provide a broader understanding of poverty: biblically, poverty is not only material. We all experience poverty in some way.

### WHAT IS POVERTY? (VIDEO & DISCUSSION)

SAY: Now that we have a view on what social justice is, let's briefly look at what poverty is. We are going to hear, through a video clip, from Dr Brian Fikkert, the CEO and Founder of the Chalmers Centre. They provide excellent resources for how to do justice well. Their book, 'When Helping Hurts', is a recommended resource.

PLAY: Video 1.2 - 'What is Poverty?' (±3:30mins)

SAY: Split into pairs and use this question to guide your discussion:

- What is the traditional view of poverty?
- What kinds of poverty do you think people in our congregation suffer from?
- After 10mins be prepared to share one key insight with the rest of the group. (Allow ±15mins)

### SESSION 1: STEP 4 MOTIVATION FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE 25 MINS

PURPOSE: To explore our motivations and their consequences, for ourselves and others. To provide a scriptural and gospelcentred range of reasons for Christ-followers to pursue justice.

### OUR MOTIVATIONS (DISCUSSION)

SAY: We have looked at what social justice is and what poverty is. What are some of the motives that we may have when trying to help someone? Give both positive and negative motivations (Allow  $\pm 10$ mins)

TIPS: Ensure that some of the following possible <u>positive</u> motivations are mentioned: to love my neighbour, to care for people, to glorify God, to be salt and light, to be a good steward, to point people to Jesus, because God tells us to Ensure that some of the following possible <u>negative</u> motivations are mentioned: to look good, out of religious duty, to stop feeling awkward, to be wanted, to be liked, to feel needed, to be a hero in someone's story, fear, pitying the person, obligation, guilt

### GOD'S MOTIVATIONS (VIDEO)

SAY: It was mentioned earlier that Christ-followers generally know that doing good is part of what it means to follow Jesus. But let's have a look at a few of the scriptural reasons why a natural part of following Christ is living out social justice as part of everyday life.

PLAY: Video 1.3 'Why do Justice' (±4mins)

### MY PERSONAL MOTIVATIONS (REFLECTION)

SAY: We've heard the gospel motivations. And we've heard some other motives that may exist. But where are you at? Do you operate more from the gospel-inspired motivations or the self-satisfying motivations?

- Let's take time to quietly reflect on the following questions(Allow  $\pm$ 5mins):
- Which of the motivations mentioned in the video stood out to you the most?
   Which have been some af your prime protecting to demonstrate the institution?
- What have been some of your primary motivations to do or not do justice?
- Having heard gospel motivations, what are some of the idolatrous motivations that you may need to repent of? What is God saying to you about your motivations?

### SESSION 1: STEP 5 PRAYER 10 MINS

- Some suggested prayer points:
  Thank God for His deep love for all people and especially the vulnerable
  Repent of the impure motives you have had
  Ask for His forgiveness
  Ask for His heart for justice to be the driving motivation to do justice

# STEP 6 CLOSING 5 MINS

Remind the group to spend time with God through prayer and reflection on scripture by working through the Devotional Guide Days 1-5.

Thank your group members for their involvement in the discussions and encourage them on their journey until you meet again.

| NOTES |
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# **SESSION 2** SOCIAL JUSTICE IN MY CITY

THE BIG IDEA: It is no mistake that we are in this city. God has placed us here and is inviting us to engage with the pain and potential in this context as participants in His grand story of redemption and restoration.

WHY THIS TOPIC: As people living in a country and city steeped in division, suffering and inequality, we sometimes hide from, or are overwhelmed by, the reality of the injustices occurring around us. This session serves as an opportunity to freshly connect with our context while inviting us into the great potential God has placed within each of us to bring His light into this darkness by placing us here at this time. It will remind us of the hope and joy that only Christ can bring – and His desire to do this through us.

### AIMS OF THIS SESSION

At the end of this session, participants will:

- be aware of the purposeful placement by God of each of us in this city at this time;
- be exposed to some of the pain of our city on a personal level;
- be inspired by the gospel-fuelled hope that only Christ brings.

### SESSION AT A GLANCE

This module consists of the following steps:

| Introduction | God has us where He wants us | Understanding our context | The hope we have | Prayer time | Closing |
|--------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------|-------------|---------|
| 10 mins      | 15 mins                      | 25 mins                   | 25 mins          | 10 mins     | 5 mins  |

### SESSION RESOURCES

You will need the following videos to play during the session:

| Video 2.1           | Video 2.2      | Video 2.3      |  |
|---------------------|----------------|----------------|--|
| A Theology of Place | Facing poverty | Christian Hope |  |

### SESSION 2: STEP 1 INTRODUCTION 10 MINS

PURPOSE: Assist participants to re-engage with the topic of social justice.

### OVERVIEW OF THE SESSION AND CHECK-IN (REFLECTION)

SAY: In Session 1 we explored a biblical understanding of social justice and poverty and the biblical motivations to pursue social justice. In this second session, we will be focusing on where God has placed us to pursue social justice – the context we find ourselves in. Take a few moments to reflect on what stood out for you from the devotions since last week's session, and write down one sentence or word to describe your most important insight. Let's go around the room and share these sentences or words.



# GOD HAS US WHERE HE WANTS US 15 MINS

PURPOSE: To recognise God's plan and purpose for us where we are.

### WHERE HAS GOD PUT US? (VIDEO & DISCUSSION)

SAY: Very often, we look around us and see only the disparate chaos and confusion in our broken world. Sometimes the randomness can get us down. This next video will help us understand how we fit into God's grand plan.

PLAY: Video 2.1: 'A Theology of Place' (±5:30mins)

ASK: What stood out for you from this video? How is God challenging you through the message from this video? (Allow ±8mins)

### SESSION 2: STEP 3 UNDERSTANDING OUR CONTEXT 25 MINS

PURPOSE: To engage with the pain, poverty, suffering and injustice in our city through exploring real life stories.

### THE FACE OF POVERTY (VIDEO & DISCUSSION)

TIP: This video is very powerful and has the potential to draw strong emotions. It is important to give people the space to share how they are doing, to normalise what they are experiencing. Don't rush the sharing in the discussion after the video. You may want people to share with the large group, or journal their feelings and thoughts. Do whatever normally works for your group when a heavy topic is being addressed.

SAY: Many of us live in a bubble, where the places we live, work and play generally avoid the places in the city where there is great suffering as a result of poverty and injustice. We can read statistics, but numbers normally don't stir our hearts – people do. So we have brought some of the voices of people in our city into our small group. This is a small set of stories that exist in our city. We can't listen to all the stories, or even the full stories – this is a sample to help us learn about life in our city. The statistics in this video are a little out of date, but the stories are still relevant. For some of us here, and in our congregation, poverty and injustice are part of our history or current reality. So we tread gently as we listen to stories of pain and injustice.

### PLAY: Video 2.2: 'Facing Poverty' (± 12mins)

ASK: What stood out to you from this video? What emotions are you experiencing now? What was the most concerning part of what you saw and heard? What questions did this raise for you? (Allow  $\pm$  10mins)

### SESSION 2: STEP 4 THE HOPE THAT WE HAVE 25 MINS

PURPOSE: To engage with the pain of the city within a gospel narrative and to have and find hope in the midst of suffering.

### CHRISTIAN HOPE (VIDEO AND DISCUSSION)

SAY: The pain that exists in our city can leave us feeling pretty hopeless. Thankfully Christ doesn't only call us to engage with the pain but gives us all we need to respond – including hope.

PLAY: Video 2.3: 'Christian Hope' (±6mins)

SAY:

- What stood out for you from the video?
- When facing stories of poverty and injustice, how 'deep' is your hope? Why?
- How can we change the way we bring hope and positivity to the world? (Allow ±15mins)

### SESSION 2: STEP 5 PRAYER 10 MINS

### SOME SUGGESTED PRAYER POINTS:

- Pray specifically for hope that our community would be infused with Christ's hope, purveyors of Christ's hope and that we would make Christ's hope contagious. Pray that God would show our community the people he has placed on our paths that need both Christ's hope and ٠
- justice.



### SESSION 2: STEP 6 PRAYER 5 MINS

Remind the group to take the time to commune with God through prayer and reflection on scripture by working through the Devotional Guide Days 6-10.

Thank your group members for their involvement in the discussions and encourage them on their journey until you meet again.

| NOTES |
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# **SESSION 3** LIVING SOCIAL JUSTICE

THE BIG IDEA: God is calling us to embrace a lifestyle of living social justice.

WHY THIS TOPIC: Engaging with and responding to poverty and injustice can become something to tick on a to-do list. God is, however, calling us to consider the multitudes of ways in which we either perpetuate injustice or can pursue justice on a daily basis as a whole life affair. As we pursue social justice, the actions of well-meaning people can lead to more harm than good, the destruction of trust and the creation of long-lasting dependence and damage to the people we are seeking to serve – and sometimes to ourselves too. This session should stimulate some helpful thinking around some of the best practices and considerations when it comes to living social justice.

### AIM OF THIS SESSION

At the end of this session, participants will:

- consider what engaging in social justice might look like in their everyday lives;
- understand some healthy principles to guide constructive and transformative involvement in issues of social justice;
- explore a possible response to social justice that could be lived out in their small group.

### SESSION AT A GLANCE

This session consists of the following steps:

| Introduction | A lifestyle response to<br>Social Justice | How to Help without<br>Hurting | Social Justice in<br>our Small Group | Reflection &<br>Prayer time | Closing |
|--------------|---|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------|
| 10 mins      | 20 mins                                   | 30 mins                        | 15 mins                              | 13 mins                     | 2 mins  |

### SESSION RESOURCES

| Video 3.1                            | Video 3.2 | Video 3.3                   | Worksheet      | Evaluation form |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|-----------------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Living a lifestyle of Social Justice | Meet Joe  | How to help without hurting | Lifestyle Quiz | for each member |

### SESSION 3: STEP 1 INTRODUCTION 10 MINS

PURPOSE: To assist participants to personally engage with the topic of social justice.

### OVERVIEW OF THE SESSION AND CHECK-IN (REFLECTION)

SAY: We have explored a biblical perspective of social justice, biblical motivations, and then last week, the pain in our context and the hope we have to bring to it. In this third and final session, we will be focusing on how to cultivate a lifestyle of living social justice and how to do good without doing harm to others and ourselves. Take a few moments to reflect on what stood out for you from the devotions since last week's session, and write down one sentence or word to describe your most important insight. Let's go around the room and share these sentences or words.

### SESSION 3: STEP 2 A LIFESTYLE RESPONSE TO SOCIAL JUSTICE 20 MINS

PURPOSE: To explore a lifestyle response to social justice

### A LIFESTYLE RESPONSE TO SOCIAL JUSTICE (VIDEO, LIFESTYLE QUIZ & REFLECTION)

SAY: In the following video, we will be looking at what 'living social justice' might look like in our everyday lives within the context that He has placed us. As you watch be aware of the Holy Spirit's whispers around the implications for your own life.

PLAY: Video 3.1: 'Living a Lifestyle of Social Justice' (±11mins)

SAY: This hand out will help us reflect on the implications of this teaching for our lives. As you fill it in – consider what God might be saying to you. Hand out the Lifestyle Quiz (1 to each group member)

SAY: (once everyone has completed the quiz) In your devotional guides (if you have them) or on a piece of paper reflect back to God ways in which He may be inviting you to more fully embrace a lifestyle of living social justice. What 2 or 3 things is He inviting you to participate in?

### SESSION 3: STEP 3 HOW TO HELP WITHOUT HURTING 30 MINS

PURPOSE: Provide basic principles to follow in order to guide healthy giving, serving and learning about social justice.

### THE UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES (VIDEO & DISCUSSION)

SAY: We are now going to look at how we help. Our hearts might be stirred to go out and make a difference to those whom God has put on our path. To help us understand this a little better, we're going to watch a brief video about some of the possible consequences of our good intentions.

PLAY: Video 3.2: 'Meet Joe' (± 3 mins)

ASK: What stood out for you in this video? Has anyone gained any fresh insights – what are they? (Allow ± 10 mins)

TIP: Don't let this become trading stories of experiences of helping someone, or being taken advantage of – stick to 'fresh insights learned'

### HELPING WITHOUT HURTING (VIDEO & DISCUSSION)

SAY: Helping people who are in need is complicated. We can all come up with examples of how good intentions don't necessarily translate into doing good. This next video is focused on how we can 'do good' in a way that does less harm.

PLAY: Video 3.3: 'How to Help without Hurting' (± 6 mins)

SAY: What are real life examples you are familiar with where these principles have been embraced or ignored? Allow a few people to share their observations (Allow  $\pm$  10 mins) The risk here is that we are so scared of doing harm we fail to try and follow Christ in doing good. Remember that this is a journey. God is leading each of us. As we grapple, learn, pray and risk, so we will grow.

# SOCIAL JUSTICE IN OUR SMALL GROUP 15 MINS

PURPOSE: To help the small group take ownership of keeping this discipleship value and to keep it alive in the group.

### SOCIAL JUSTICE IN OUR SMALL GROUP (DISCUSSION)

SAY: These three weeks have been part of a much bigger journey that God has each of us on. For some of us, we have already grappled deeply with this topic and this has been a reminder of God's passion for social justice and the injustice in our context. For others, this may be the first time you have heard this type of teaching. What is clear is that this journey merely an introduction to this biblical theme. We could spend months on this topic and only begin to scratch the surface. The whole idea of these three sessions is that we are ignited into a renewed pursuit of seeking social justice and a journey of grappling with how to apply it to our daily lives.

ASK: So what can we do, as a small group, to keep this journey going?

TIP: You may want to reference Common Ground's existing response to God's call to impact the vulnerable in our city: connect with your congregation's Social Justice Ministry Team and find out what is happening and how you and/or your group can get involved.

### SESSION 3: STEP 5 REFLECTION & PRAYER 10 MINS

SAY: Take a moment now to reflect on what God has been saying to you throughout this journey and write it down. (Allow  $\pm 2$  mins) Ask everyone to share this awareness in one sentence only. (Allow  $\pm 3$  mins)

PRAYER: Some suggested prayer points:

- Pray for each other that what God has started he would complete
- Pray for social justice to be lived in your small group, congregation and community

### SESSION 3: STEP 6 CLOSING & EVALUATION 5 MINS

Remind the group to complete Days 11 – 15 in the devotional guide over the course of the week.

Thank your group members for their involvement in the discussions and encourage them on their journey. Ask them to keep this journey alive in the group and to spur each other on to greater maturity in this area. If there are participants who would like to go deeper – subscribe to Groundswell and look at "Resources" on the Just Church site.

Hand out the evaluation forms and ask the group to complete this before leaving. Please hand in these forms to the admin team at the involvement desk at the next Sunday meeting.

NOTES



www.commongood.org.za