The Week of October 18, 2020 Protecting the Vulnerable Discussion Questions

Click here for a summary of this week's message.

Intro Questions

- Has anyone in your group visited a third world country? How did that change their perspective?
- What do you think makes a person "vulnerable"?

Biblical Justice

Read Micah 6:8

He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

- What do you think it means to do justice? To love kindness? To walk humbly with God?
- Read Proverbs 31:8

Speak up for those who have no voice, for the justice of all who are dispossessed.

• What principle do we learn from this verse? How can we apply it in our lives?

Read Psalm 146:7-9

He gives justice to the oppressed and food to the hungry. The Lord frees the prisoners. The Lord opens the eyes of the blind. The Lord lifts up those who are weighed down. The Lord loves the godly. The Lord protects the foreigners among us. He cares for the orphans and widows, but he frustrates the plans of the wicked.

 What principle do we learn from this verse? How can we apply it in our lives?

Read Deuteronomy 15:7-11

"If there is a poor person among you, one of your brothers within any of your city gates in the land the Lord your God is giving you, do not be hardhearted or tightfisted toward your poor brother. Instead, you are to open your hand to him and freely loan him enough for whatever need he has. Be careful that there isn't this wicked thought in your heart, '... Give to him, and don't have a stingy heart when you give, and because of this the Lord your God will bless you in all your work and in everything you do.

 What principle do we learn from this verse? How can we apply it in our lives?

- How does the Bible show us that God loves the vulnerable, oppressed, and disadvantaged deeply?
 - Other verses Pastor David shared: Leviticus 25:9-15, Leviticus 24:22, Proverbs 31:9, Jeremiah 22:3, Deuteronomy 27:19, Deuteronomy 16:19, Leviticus 19:9, Ruth 2:3, 8-9, Deuteronomy 14-28-29

Protecting the Unborn

Read Psalm 139:13-14

For it was You who created my inward parts; You knit me together in my mother's womb. I will praise You because I have been remarkably and wonderfully made. Your works are wonderful, and I know this very well.

• Read Jeremiah 1:5

I chose you before I formed you in the womb; I set you apart before you were born. I appointed you a prophet to the nations.

 How does it feel to know that God created you uniquely and has a plan for you? For the children in your life? For babies that haven't been born yet?

Read Exodus 21:22-25
 "When men get in a fight and hit a pregnant woman so that her children are born prematurely but there is no injury, the one who hit her must be fined as the woman's husband demands from him, and he must pay according to judicial assessment. If there is an injury, then you must give life for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot, burn for burn, bruise for bruise, wound for wound.

- This verse shows us that God cares about justice for the unborn. How can we work to bring this justice about?
- How are you using your voice to speak up for the unborn?

 How do each of the parties address this topic in their platform?

• Is God leading you to use your time, talents, and treasure to fight for the unborn?

Protecting Those In Poverty

- Read Psalm 82:2-4
 - "How long will you judge unjustly and show partiality to the wicked? Provide justice for the needy and the fatherless; uphold the rights of the oppressed and the destitute. Rescue the poor and needy; save them from the power of the wicked."
 - This verse shows us that God cares about justice for those in poverty. How can we work to bring this justice about?
 - How are you using your voice to speak up for those in poverty?
 - How do each of the parties address this topic in their platform?

 Is God leading you to use your time, talents, and treasure to fight for those in poverty?

Protecting The Immigrant

- Read Leviticus 19:33-34
 When an alien lives with you in your land, do not mistreat him. The alien living with you must be treated as one of your native born. Love him as yourself, for you were aliens in Egypt. I am the LORD your God.
 - This verse shows us that God cares about justice for the immigrant. How can we work to bring this justice about?
 - How are you using your voice to speak up for the immigrant?
 - How do each of the parties address this topic in their platform?

• Is God leading you to use your time, talents, and treasure to fight for the immigrant?

For I was hungry and you gave Me something to eat; I was thirsty and you gave Me something to drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you took care of Me; I was in prison and you visited Me.'

"Then the righteous will answer Him, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You something to drink? When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or without clothes and clothe You? When did we see You sick, or in prison, and visit You?'

"And the King will answer them, 'I assure you: Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of Mine, you did

for Me.' Then He will also say to those on the left, 'Depart from Me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the Devil and his angels!

For I was hungry and you gave Me nothing to eat; I was thirsty and you gave Me nothing to drink; I was a stranger and you didn't take Me in; I was naked and you didn't clothe Me, sick and in prison and you didn't take care of Me.'

"Then they too will answer, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry, or thirsty, or a stranger, or without clothes, or sick, or in prison, and not help You?'

"Then He will answer them, 'I assure you: Whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for Me either.'

Matthew 25:35-45

Are you a sheep or a goat?

- Last week you were asked to research candidates and issues on the ballot. What conclusions have you reached? What is your biblical basis for it?
- Have you read the party platforms? Click below for links to each. Use your browsers search function to find the topics most important to you.
 - Republican (the Republican Party has chosen to not adopt a new party platform for 2020 and continue with the 2016 platform linked here.)
 - Democratic
 - <u>Libertarian</u>
 - Green

Weep It Going

Resources to help you keep growing and learning this week.

Click here to learn more about following Jesus.

Click here to review the sermon.

Click here to read the sermon manuscript.

Check out the "Under God?" section of the Celebration App for Election Resources.