

9. Read James 2:14-18

What does the well-used term ‘faith and good works’ mean in reconciling the human injustice in Jesus’ life for us.

**Closing question setting the scenes for unpacking OT and NT  
Biblical teaching over the next two weeks in the series.**

Tim Keller said, “Contemporary people tend to examine the Bible, looking for things they can accept; but Christians should reverse that, allowing the Bible to examine us, looking for things that God can’t accept.”

10. Read Malachi 2:17

How does your view of understanding sound Biblical doctrine influence your faith with justice?



Sermon Series: 5 November - 17 December 2023

## Introduction

We commence our new series at KAC with a Biblical theme of “Justice”. God is just. It is His character. He defines and sets the standards for justice. This series will take us to Jesus’ birth at Christmas. Like His Father, Jesus pursued justice. He physically and spiritually rescued those in need.

Two points to commence your discussion, either one to one or in Bible Study/Growth Groups.

I urge you to be open to what “justice” means as we live as followers of Jesus at this time and in this place.

### 1. Personal approaches

Constantly and consistently engage with this series at a “personal level”. Each one of us will respond quite diversely due to life experiences in faith.

### 2. Principle applications.

The principle of 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.” The same principle must be applied today.

The origin for this series commenced in 2010 shortly after I arrived as your Senior Pastor. I read the Tim Keller book “Generous Justice”.

I was struck time and again how much we label the term of “justice” by clouding our engagement with its political, legal, economic, socio and educational implications rather than the Biblical framework where it belongs.

Think about this. Justice + Grace = Generous! It is not a mathematical formula. It is the commencement of God’s design and plan for His people. Jesus modelling the call to live justly. As we are filled by the grace of God, we must allow the Spirit to move us to respond to this call of justice.

Over the coming seven weeks we will unpack justice in our world today, using Tim Keller's work as a resource - “How God’s Grace Makes Us Just!” Therefore, generous justice!

Let us grapple together as we study in God’s Word “God’s Justice in a Hurting World.”

## **Study 1: What is God’s Justice?**

A study in parallel with the sermon on 5 November

### **Setting the Scene**

How do you engage with justice in faith within any of the following concerns:

1. Israel and Hamas current conflict, voting Yes/No in our recent Indigenous Referendum, the partnership with Berkeley Life Centre and KAC, and/or any other matter that moves you in response to this question of your faith and justice in our world today?

2. How do generous + justice fit together for you?
3. Where does forgiveness and or guilt fit into justice in our faith?

### **Key questions to consider alongside the first sermon in this series.**

4. Read Luke 4:17-18 & Isaiah 61:1-2

We are called to follow Jesus but what does He urge us to do in our faith?

5. Read Psalm 146:7-9 & Deuteronomy 10:17-18

Discuss how the justice of God is speaking into our lives in faith today?

6. Read Micah 6:8

What does sound Biblical doctrine lead you to act upon justly in your life today?

7. Read Zechariah 7:8-11

What stops you responding to the injustice around you (human rights, poverty, unrighteousness, racism...) in your life today?

8. Read Deuteronomy 4:6-8

If God is truly good to all who would follow Him how do we reconcile this with His justice in the world around us today?