

INTRODUCTION

The reflections during the *Building Bridges of Hope* series aim to capture the big ideas of the weekly sermon. The sermon series will focus on CG Midtown's core values through the lens of the book of Acts.

CG MIDTOWN VALUE: JUSTICE

Individually and as a community, we desire to live in right relationship with God, each other, and all of Creation. We long to act justly and equitably and to break down barriers of injustice in the community around us. We strive to demonstrate this pursuit in tangible ways through our words and activity.

SERMON REFLECTION

Read: Isaiah 9:7, Psalm 50:6, Proverbs 21:15, Micah 6:8, Luke 4:18-19, Luke 11:42

Overview: Kingdom justice is the mission of the church. From the first moments of Christ's public ministry, he declared that his mission was to set things right for everyone. In our day, justice has many different meanings and applications and is used for different agendas. We can't have justice without Jesus and we cannot have Jesus without Justice.

Reflect:

- How do you define justice?
- Based on his actions and teachings, how does Jesus define justice?
- How do you respond to this statement: "We can't have justice without Jesus and we cannot have Jesus without Justice"?
- What stood out to you from Sunday's conversation between Pastor Clarence Moore (New Era) and Jeff Krajewski?
- Where is God calling you to grow (or live into) the value of justice? How about your small group?

PRAYER

- *O God, open our eyes that we may see the needs of others; open our ears that we may hear their cries; open our hearts that we may feel their anguish and their joy. Let us not be afraid to defend the oppressed, the poor, the powerless, because of the anger and might of the powerful. Show us where love and hope and faith are needed, and use us to bring them to those places. Open our ears and eyes, our hearts and lives, that we may in these coming days be able to do some work of justice and peace for you. Amen. -- From Sojourners*