

## Scripture References

Isaiah 53:3a He was despised and rejected by mankind, a man of suffering, and familiar with pain.

Psalms 89:14 Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne; love and faithfulness go before you.

Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Psalms 68:5 A father to the fatherless, a defender of widows, is God in his holy dwelling.

Psalms 146:7-9 He upholds the cause of the oppressed and gives food to the hungry. The Lord sets prisoners free, the Lord gives sight to the blind, the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down, the Lord loves the righteous. The Lord watches over the foreigner and sustains the fatherless and the widow, but he frustrates the ways of the wicked.

Job 31:16-23 “If I have denied the desires of the poor or let the eyes of the widow grow weary, if I have kept my bread to myself, not sharing it with the fatherless— but from my youth I reared them as a father would, and from my birth I guided the widow— if I have seen anyone perishing for lack of clothing, or the needy without garments, and their hearts did not bless me for warming them with the fleece from my sheep, if I have raised my hand against the fatherless, knowing that I had influence in court, then let my arm fall from the shoulder, let it be broken off at the joint. For I dreaded destruction from God, and for fear of his splendor I could not do such things.

Proverbs 19:17 Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will reward them for what they have done.

Proverbs 14:31 Whoever oppresses the poor shows contempt for their Maker, but whoever is kind to the needy honors God.

Galatians 6:2 Carry each other’s burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.

## Justice Do It

Oct 13, 2019

### Fred Hennes, Sermon #650, “Life Is Not Fair” (Isaiah 53:3)

The Latin word for justice is \_\_\_\_\_ - it means upright, not crooked.

A lesson we must all learn is that life is not \_\_\_\_\_.

We all want a just \_\_\_\_\_, but if it is going to happen it must be something humans \_\_\_\_\_.

Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ with the hundreds of millions of nameless people who have been wrongfully imprisoned, robbed of their possessions, tortured, and killed.

How revealing it is that the Bible introduces \_\_\_\_\_ as “a father to the fatherless, a defender of widows.”

Jesus shaped our human experience and our understanding of the obligations of one \_\_\_\_\_ to another.

Will I be aware of the problems of the vulnerable and make their problems part of my \_\_\_\_\_?

The disposition of one’s \_\_\_\_\_ signifies the disposition of one’s \_\_\_\_\_.

We are to carry the \_\_\_\_\_ of one another.

## Life Group Activity

1. Name something in your life right now that is not fair.

### Discussion Questions

2. Regarding this sermon, is there any truth that stands out as being particularly helpful, insightful or difficult to grasp?
3. Why is there no right or wrong in nature and yet such a strong sense of fairness is ingrained in the human experience?
4. If God's heart, and Jesus' ministry, was so focused on improving the condition of the oppressed members of society, then why does God not put an immediate end to all injustice today?
5. What reasons can you find in Psalm 146 to praise the Lord?

6. Job is one of the most interesting and mysterious people in the Scriptures. Read Job 31 followed by Job 32:1. Job claimed to be righteous, but his "friends" found fault with him. Therefore, how do you interpret Elihu's declaration in Job 34:11?

### Application Questions & Prayer

7. What does it look like to you to "carry the burdens" of another person? (see Galatians 6:2).
8. Which possession are you most likely to direct toward the cause of the vulnerable; your time, money or skills? Why?
9. Pray for one another so that you increase your sensitivity to justice and the actions you can take to ensure that others are treated well, and injustices are fixed.