Growth Group Questions

Reuben Capill, 25/20/21

1. How do you feel about the issue of social justice? Would you say it is high on your agenda or not? Why do think this is?

Read Jeremiah 22:1-5

2. What do we learn about God in these verses? You can find the same ideas all through the Old Testament (for example, see Micah 6:6-8; Psalm 146:7-9).

3. How should this view of God shape the way we think about issues of injustice in Launceston and around the world?

4. * Skim your eyes over chapter 22. Why is God angry at these evil kings of Judah? (see verse 9 and verses 13-17)

In verse 3, the Lord says, 'Do what is just and right.' The word for just (*mishpat*) means to fix unjust situations, punish evil, and stand up for the oppressed and vulnerable. We might think of helping the needy as 'optional charity', but the Bible actually tells us it is our *obligation* (see Job 31:16-23).

5. Does this change the way you think about needy people in your life and community? How might God be calling you/us to action?

The word for 'right' (*tzadeqah*) is talking about a life of righteousness, a heart that loves God and loves others. This is the real reason why there is so much injustice and hurt in our world… because all our human hearts are unrighteous.

Read Jeremiah 23:5-6

6. Why is it so encouraging to know that Jesus is a King who does what is 'just and right'?

7. How might this give us hope and keep us from despair? How might this motivate us to take action, to do justice and righteousness?

On Sunday, we were all encouraged to partner with *International Justice Mission* in order to fight modern day slavery. You can find out more here: https://www.ijm.org/get-involved.

I also encourage you to think about how you could pursue justice here in Launceston. If the Spirit is laying a particular need on your heart, talk and pray about it together.

Pray to the King of justice.

Praise him. Pray for IJM. Pray about the injustice throughout our world. Ask God to lead and use us.

* You could skip this question if you're pushed for time.