



**BIG IDEA**

Jesus brings justice.

MARK | BECAUSE JESUS | WEEK 3 OF 4

# Justice

## GOD STORY

Jesus Clears the Temple  
*Mark 11:15–19*

## KEY VERSE

We know what love is  
because Jesus Christ gave  
his life for us.  
*1 John 3:16a (NIRV)*

## LEADER TIP

This week, emphasize that  
Jesus' version of justice is  
not about revenge or  
punishment. Instead, the  
justice of Jesus aids the  
oppressed!

## My Story

### 1 | CONVERSATION STARTER (2 minutes)

To lead into today's lesson, discuss the nicest things other people did for the kids this week as well as something nice they did for others.

### 2 | INTRO ACTIVITY (5 minutes)

Divide everyone into groups and give treats to only one group (at first) to help explain fairness and justice. Introduce the Big Idea.

## God Story | Life Story

### 3 | WEEKLY VIDEO (12 minutes)

Watch the video, which includes host, God Story, Key Verse, and Life Story segments. Recap and discuss them together.

## My Story

### 4 | SMALL GROUP ACTIVITY (12 minutes\*)

Make a group craft that encourages the kids to consider how to live out Micah 6:8.

### 5 | WRAP-UP ACTIVITY (8 minutes)

Review the Key Verse, then guide everyone to pray for friends and family.

## Our Story

### 6 | DISMISSAL

Connect with parents and give them take-home materials.

\*Extend as needed and adjust the timing for other activities.



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## My Story

### 1 | Conversation Starter

**SUPPLIES**

- None

**LEADER TIP**

- Be prepared to share your own examples to kick-start the conversation.

**INSTRUCTIONS**

- Welcome the kids as they arrive and gather everyone in a group.
- Ask:
  - What was the nicest thing that someone did for you this week?
  - Did you do anything nice for someone? If so, what did you do?
- Depending on the size of your group, have the kids share their answers with the people sitting closest to them or with everyone.

### 2 | Intro Activity

**SUPPLIES**

- Treats (e.g., candies or stickers)

**INSTRUCTIONS**

- Direct everyone to line up.
- Number the kids to create two groups (i.e., one, two, one, two).
- Instruct all the twos to sit down. The ones should remain standing.
- Give a treat to each of the ones.
- Ask the twos: How do you feel about not getting anything just because you're twos?
- Explain that when something doesn't seem fair another word for it is unjust. Justice is when the unfair thing is made right.
- Give a treat to each of the twos.
- Introduce today's Big Idea: **Jesus brings justice.** That means Jesus makes things right!



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## God Story | Life Story

### 3 | Weekly Video

**SUPPLIES**

- Video file

**LEADER TIP**

- Make sure the kids understand the links between today's Big Idea, the God Story, and the Life Story.

**INSTRUCTIONS**

- Play the video. It includes:
  - Host segment
  - God Story (Jesus Clears the Temple, Mark 11:15–19)
  - Key Verse segment
  - Life Story (Alyssa cares deeply about justice issues because of her walk with Jesus.)
- Recap the video teaching. Discuss:
  - What stood out to you in today's Life Story?
  - What stood out to you in the God Story?
  - How do these stories connect with each other and with the Big Idea that **Jesus brings justice**?



## My Story

### 4 | Small Group Activity

#### SUPPLIES

- Bibles
- Craft paper
- Markers
- Wall-safe tape

#### LEADER TIP

- Mercy is when we're forgiven or shown compassion even though we don't deserve it.

#### INSTRUCTIONS

- Gather your small group to sit in a circle.
- Discuss:
  - Have you ever seen someone treated unfairly? What happened?
  - Did you do anything to stop it? If so, what did you do? If not, what are some ways you could help stop something similar in the future?
  - How would you explain justice to a friend?
  - How did we see Jesus bring justice in today's story?
  - What are some ways we can bring justice to the people around us?
- Make sure everyone has a Bible. Share them if needed.
- Show the kids how to find Micah 6:8.
- Read the verse out loud twice.
- Tell everyone that this verse can be shortened to just six words. Ask if they can guess what these words are.
- If needed, let the kids know the six words are "act justly, love mercy, walk humbly".
- Write three headings spaced evenly on the craft paper: Act Justly; Love Mercy; Walk Humbly.

- Place the markers where everyone can share them.
- Encourage everyone to draw or write about ways they can act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly every day. Help the kids with ideas. Prompt them to think of scenarios at school, at home, or somewhere they visit often.
- As they work together to create a group poster, discuss:
  - What does loving mercy look like in our lives?
  - What does walking humbly mean? Why is it important to be humble?
- Hang the completed group craft where parents will see it at pick-up time.



## My Story

### 5 | Wrap-Up Activity

#### SUPPLIES

- Key Verse sign
- Wall-safe tape
- Paper
- Pens

#### BEFORE THE ACTIVITY

- Hang the Key Verse sign where everyone can see it easily.

#### INSTRUCTIONS

- Remain in your small groups.
- Read the Key Verse out loud together.
- Discuss: People tend not to think about love and justice at the same time. How does this verse show that they're connected?
- Explain that **Jesus brings justice** by helping others. He sacrificed his life for us in the ultimate act of help! We can give our lives for others and show them love by helping them.
- Give each person a piece of paper and a pen.
- Direct everyone to print the name of a friend or a family member for whom they want to pray.
- Collect the papers and arrange them into the shape of a cross on the floor.
- Invite the kids to speak their individual prayers softly together. Encourage them to pray:
  - for any specific needs this person may have;
  - that this person would be open to God and become a follower of Jesus if not already;
  - and that God would use the kids to reach their friends and family members!

## Our Story

### 6 | Dismissal

#### SUPPLIES

- Crafts
- Take-home cards
- Key Verse cards
- Key Verse colouring pages

#### LEADER TIP

- Organize the take-home materials so they're easy to access. It may be helpful to sort them before the lesson, then set out any crafts later. Consider having one leader focus on handing out everything.

#### INSTRUCTIONS

- Greet parents as they arrive to pick up their kids. Take a moment to share a highlight or two from your time together today.
- Give everyone a weekly take-home card.
- Offer a Key Verse card and a colouring page to anyone who has not gotten them this month.
- Remind the kids to take their crafts.
- Make sure their security numbers match before they leave your group's space.