



## PRAY IT THROUGH

- Confess any fears, weaknesses and indifference to all those Jesus would identify as your neighbours.
- Pray for the poor and those suffering in your community.
- Pray that God would help you help them, even when it is risky and costly to you.

# GOSPEL IN LIFE

SMALL GROUPS SHEET  
WEEK BEGINNING 20 OCTOBER 2013

## **7. JUSTICE – A People For Others**

Oakhall  
CHURCH WELCOMES YOU



## FOR STARTERS

**FOLLOW - UP:** Share any opportunities you have had to witness to Jesus this past week.

**Micah 6:8** says...      *“He has showed you, O man, 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.”*

In this study sheet are going to think more about what it means to “act justly” and “love mercy” - the very things God **requires** of us.



## INVESTIGATE

Consider the following social responsibility laws that God gave Israel:

- Deut 14:28-29; 15:7-11
- Lev 19:19-10, 18, 33-34

*In the latter part of the Old Testament the prophets condemned Israel’s insensitivity to the poor and suffering as covenant breaking.*

### Read Isaiah 58:3-12

- What is the problem with the people’s behaviour (v3-6)?
- In the context, what does it mean to “loose the chains of injustice”?
- What is the result of doing these acts of mercy and justice (v8-12)?

In the following passages, how do *Isaiah, the writer of Proverbs, Jesus, James and John* all highlight the importance of showing mercy / bringing justice to those in our community?

- Proverbs 14:31; 19:17 \_\_\_\_\_
- Isaiah 1:10-17 \_\_\_\_\_



## INVESTIGATE

- Mathew 5:43-6:4 \_\_\_\_\_
- Matthew 25:31-46 \_\_\_\_\_
- James 1:26-27; 2:12-17 \_\_\_\_\_
- 1 John 3:16-18 \_\_\_\_\_

*A sensitive social conscience and a life poured out in deeds of mercy to the needy is the inevitable sign of a person who has grasped God’s grace. Discuss.*



## THINK IT THROUGH

It is the experience of grace that enables us to act justly and love mercy and walk humbly with our God. (Discuss)



## TAKE ACTION

In the parable of the Good Samaritan in Lk 10 Jesus highlights the fact that our ‘neighbour’ is *anyone* we come into contact with who has needs.

- Make a list of people and groups that are in need around you.
- Are there ways in which your attitude to these people differs from God’s?
- How, in practical ways, can you be a neighbour to them and live out Micah 6:8? What things prevent you from being more merciful?
- Are there established mercy ministries locally that you (and your group) could volunteer at?