

[giv] Week 1

The God of Justice

Memory Verse:

*but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.
Romans 5:8*

1) CATCH UP ON LIFE

This is when we update each other on the day in and day out happenings of our lives. Because God is our Father we are family. As church family, we care about each other's lives: what we're celebrating, what we're mourning, what decisions we are praying through, and everything in between. (1 Thessalonians 2:8, Romans 12:10 and 15)

Celebrate the wins - where have you seen Jesus working in the last week (shaping you to be more like Himself or working in the lives of those that He's put around you)?

What (if any) big life updates do you need to catch us up on (positive or negative)? Are there any practical needs you have right now?

Pray: Take every opportunity to pray and thank God for the good He's doing in our lives and ask for help and healing anywhere there is pain.

2) REVIEW THE MISSION

Through the empowerment of the Holy Spirit we have been sent as missionaries in everyday life to display God's glory and lead others to repentance and faith through belief in the gospel. (John 20:21 and 2 Corinthians 5:18-20)

What are the rhythms that you currently have built into your life to be around non believers? How are you being intentional in your efforts? What is the next step you should take?

3) DISCUSS AND ENGAGE

Since we follow Jesus we seek to apply the Gospel continually to all of life. God uses His Word to reveal Himself to us, to equip us to live the good life He's designed for us, to show us our sin, and to strengthen us as we follow Him. We preach the Word on Sundays and apply it as a Group throughout the week. (2 Timothy 3:16-17, Colossians 1:9-12 and James 1:22-25).

Read Malachi 2:17

What are the people of Israel saying about God? Have you ever heard this argument made?

Have you ever made the same argument or wondered "where is God"?

Read Malachi 3:1-5

How does God respond to their questioning? What does he say he is going to do?

How does Jesus fulfill the promises made in verses 1-4?

How does God's promise of the coming, ultimate justice give us hope?

How do you encounter those in vulnerable situations? Are you living in such a way that indicates you "fear the Lord"? How can we grow in these areas?