

DAY OF PRAYER JUNE 26, 2020: JUSTICE

*"He has shown you, O Mortal, 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" (Micah 6:8).*

1. ADORATION

Spend a minute or two adoring God for His attributes:

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

2. LOCAL JUSTICE (6mins)

BC has the second highest rate of poverty in Canada, especially children, with 1 in 5 children living in poverty. Southside has the opportunity to address some of these needs in the Edmonds area by hosting a Monday Night evening called Homeward Bound which feeds and cares for the homeless and poor among us. We, Southside, also host the outreach centre on Thursday morning, which offers food, medical needs, and clothing. Carol-Ann is currently the co-ordinator of the Burnaby Task Force for Homelessness and plays a huge role in all that goes on at our Edmonds campus regarding this.

CONFESS times we have turned the other way when we pass by the homeless, or looked down on them or judge them.

PRAY for Southside's involvement in:

- Monday night Homeward Bound (dinner, befriending, caring, listening)
- Thursday morning. For relationships to develop both with the poor and also with those who work there.
- For those in poverty due to addictions, mental health issues, that they will be able to access the necessary resources and support they need.
- For Carol-Ann and her role and witness in the Task Force for homelessness.

3. JUSTICE BEYOND (6mins)

Choose one of the following two prayer focuses for your next few minutes of prayer:

A. NATIONAL

First Nations people are at the bottom of the socio economic scale with high rates of incarceration, poverty, unemployment, suicide, addictions and so on. Today there is still discrimination against them and there are 3 times as many children in child welfare care today as there were in the Residential schools at their peak.

CONFESS our country's discrimination against First Nations people and dismissing their teaching and values they hold to.

PRAY

- That all will be treated equally and fairly.
- For policy interventions to eliminate education and employment gaps.
- For protection of women who are violated and abducted.
- That the government would provide resources to enable aboriginal communities to keep Families together when possible.

B. GLOBAL

Much turmoil and tension in the United States has arisen due the death of George Floyd and Rayshard Brooks, with a closer investigation of police brutality now being addressed. Systemic racism is apparent, hate crimes are on the rise, whites supremacists are gaining power, and anti immigrant rhetoric has intensified. Since this incident there have been massive anti black racism protests around the world, with racial violence being a global issue.

A place for us to begin as we seek to respond to the sin of racism is that of **Lament**, to mourn with those who mourn (Romans 12:15), joining with those who are hurting in their pain.

CONFESS our own silent indifference and ignorance on this issue.

LAMENT

- The loss of life
- Families torn apart
- Communities shattered
- The history of violence toward black Americans.
- The fact that this violence continues today.

PRAY

- For healing and restoration
- For all believers to reject partiality due to colour.
- For courage to speak up when we witness racial inequality, and defy it.
- For God to open the eyes of believers to be a part of the solution.

4. REFLECT

LORD, WHAT DO YOU WANT US TO LEARN IN THE MIDST OF THIS?

LORD, HOW DO YOU WANT US TO RESPOND?

Send Shelley an email with any things you believe God may be saying to us as a church:
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