

3. Act Justly

Start off with feedback from Sunday's message. What did those that were there - or those that have caught up online - take away from it? What encouraged them, what informed them and what challenged them?

Read Micah 6.8 & John 1.18

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.

¹⁸ No one has ever seen God, but the one and only Son, who is himself God and is in the closest relationship with the Father, has made him known.

- Love Mercy, Walk Humbly, Act Justly. Which of these do you find the easiest to do and which do you find the hardest? Why?
- What kind of justice do you personally engage in most **Reactive** (you do the right thing when a situation comes knocking on your door) or **Proactive** (you go out of your way to overcome 'injustice anywhere')?
- "Christianity and politics don't mix. Our job is to take care of the victim, not worry about what made them a victim in the first place." Discuss.
- John 1.18. The Bible says that nobody has really seen God, outside of His perfect revelation in Jesus. So how should we handle images of God portrayed in the Old Testament, or from churches today, that don't seem to look like Jesus?
- How did Jesus show us how to act justly? What can we learn from his attitude towards the underdog and the outsider? What did he demonstrate by the way he treated women, children, outcasts and the sick?
- What would it look like for you to let Jesus act justly through your life?

Big Idea: 'If we want to act justly we need to let Jesus show us how, then let him do it through us, as we love mercy and walk humbly with him.'

Break down in smaller groups and pray for a fresh revelation of Jesus, who reveals the nature of God to us and shows us how we should live. Pray for the self-confidence and security to walk humbly with Jesus, allowing him to live and act justly through us. Pray for a renewed love of mercy.

Pray for situations of injustice that we are aware of and for God to bring His justice to them. Pray for the causes impacted by Love Running – Syrian children in the Azraq Refugee camp, vulnerable and marginalised people across Bristol. Pray that the money raised will change lives, including ours.