

THE *Big 3*

EPISODE: 185

TITLE: How Do We Love Mercy and Do Justice?

When we do justice, our hearts are aligned with the truth of the Gospel—which is that Christ died to make things right, to make them as they should be. Restored. When we act, participating in God’s restorative justice, we begin to realize that this Gospel is bigger than any weekend service project.

Here are 3 things to believe and consider about loving mercy and doing justice...

1. **In the Bible, justice is really about righteous restoration.** What’s your definition of justice? Payback, retribution, punishment, getting even? Often we speak of *getting justice*, the Bible speaks of *doing justice*. Getting even or punishing people for their screw-ups is going in the wrong direction. It’s working against God’s purposes. God is not interested in getting even; he wants people to see who they really are—who they were meant to be.
2. **Mercy is an attitude of the heart that is inclined toward compassion** most often translated to mean kindness or goodness. Mercy is often expressed through acts of justice and restoration. But unless we embrace the mercy God has shown us through sending Jesus to give his life to restore us and our relationship with our Father, we will probably miss out on being a part of his restorative justice in this world!
3. **Open your eyes to the need for true justice all around you!** Engaging justice includes increased awareness followed by an intentional and sustained effort to confront need as it appears in local forms and global forms such as the orphan crisis, human trafficking, or the need for clean water.

Spend some time in prayer today asking God to show you what false beliefs, fears, personal idols or selfish priorities you need to release. How might you love mercy and begin to do small, or large, acts of justice today?

In light of today’s topics, you might find these posts and videos helpful:

- [The One Person You Need to Worry About](#)
- [Lifeschool 165: This is What Will Keep You From Living On Mission](#)

REMINDER:

[The Justice Primer](#) will walk you step-by-step as a group into understanding what it means to love mercy and do justice among the least of these in your area.

Thanks for listening... we’ll see you in the next episode!

Caesar & Heath

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