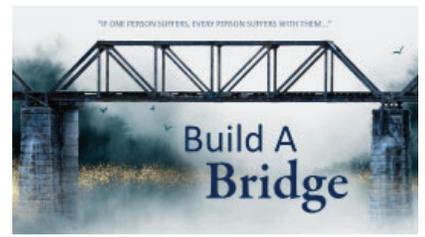


DAILY READING PLAN



Week of March 21, 2021

Build A Bridge: Doing Justice

Micah 6:3-8, James 2:14-17

Day One: *“The church was designed to be on the forefront of the conversations about race. The church has been called to speak out against oppression, defend the marginalized, live as peacemakers and lead their communities in reconciliation and transformative change.” - Scott Ridout*

- Do you agree with that statement? What Scripture would you point to in order to support your position?

Day Two: Read Micah 6:8

⁸ *“No, O people, the LORD has told you what is good, and this is what he requires of you: to do justice, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God.”*

- What does it mean to “do justice”? What does “doing justice” look like when it comes to racial reconciliation?

Day Three: Read Isaiah 1:16-17

¹⁶ *Wash yourselves and be clean! Get your sins out of my sight. Give up your evil ways. ¹⁷ Learn to do good. Seek justice. Help the oppressed. Defend the cause of orphans. Fight for the rights of widows.*

- How does Isaiah seem to define what it means to seek justice? Why do you think Isaiah focused on the oppress, fatherless and widows? Who might Isaiah focus on today?

Day Four: Read John 8:1-11

¹ *Jesus returned to the Mount of Olives, ² but early the next morning he was back again at the Temple. A crowd soon gathered, and he sat down and taught them. ³ As he was speaking, the teachers of religious law and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in the act of adultery. They put her in front of the crowd. ⁴ “Teacher,” they said to Jesus, “this woman was caught in the act of adultery. ⁵ The law of Moses says to stone her. What do you say?” ⁶ They were trying to trap him into saying something they could use against him, but Jesus stooped down and wrote in the dust with his finger. ⁷ They kept demanding an answer, so he stood up again and said, “All right, but let the one who has never sinned throw the first stone!” ⁸ Then he stooped down again and wrote in the dust. ⁹ When the accusers heard this, they slipped away one by one, beginning with the oldest, until only Jesus was left in the middle of the crowd with the woman. ¹⁰ Then Jesus stood up again and said to the woman, “Where are your accusers? Didn’t even one of them condemn you?” ¹¹ “No, Lord,” she said. And Jesus said, “Neither do I. Go and sin no more.”*

- Why doesn’t Jesus enforce the law here? If Jesus is modeling restorative justice, what does this imply about God’s call to “do justice” for people today?

Day Five: Read Revelation 7:9-10

⁹ *After this I saw a vast crowd, too great to count, from every nation and tribe and people and language, standing in front of the throne and before the Lamb. They were clothed in white robes and held palm branches in their hands.*

¹⁰ *And they were shouting with a great roar, “Salvation comes from our God who sits on the throne and from the Lamb!”*

- God’s vision is of a Church that includes every tribe and nation. What can you do to make your church more inclusive? What barriers may need to come down? What doors may need to be opened? What relationships need to be established?