

Sunday, October 18, 2020 - "Average Joe - Week 3: Do Justice" - Doug Kempton

Key Passages: Micah 6:8, Genesis 37:12-36, Genesis 42:21

- Feel free to read the passage(s) out loud as a group
- Allow the group to share freely about what stood out to them from the passage or from Sunday's message

Main Ideas

- Micah 6:8
 - We are to love steadfast love (hesed)
 - Doing justice is the ultimate equalizer (it rights wrongs)
- Genesis 37:12-36
 - Joseph's brothers are working in the fields
 - They are earning the family income
 - Jacob sends Joseph (not to work but to spy for his dad)
 - Joseph wears his ornate coat (this confirmed that he wasn't going to work and he didn't have to work)
 - His brothers conspire to kill him because of their jealousy (they knew his dream would come true somehow)
 - They end up selling him into slavery instead and pretending he died
- At first glance the oldest brother, Reuben, seems noble...(he is really only looking out for himself)
 - He would have been responsible for everyone else
 - But he fails to stand up for justice (he doesn't use his position and power)
 - "Respectable neutrality"
 - We are not called to this
 - We are called to stand in the gap and even to take harm for others
 - "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." - Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
- Genesis 42:21
 - The brothers know that they did wrong
 - Joseph would have begged them not to do it
 - This injustice (sin/lie) changed the course of their lives
 - The caravan took Joseph to Egypt so that he could save his people
- There are moments in Joseph's story that point to Jesus...there are similarities in Joseph and Jesus
 - Jesus sent by his father ...Joseph was sent by his father
 - Joseph came to his own family and they rejected him (John 1:11)
 - Joseph was ridiculed, rejected, assaulted and thrown into the ground
 - The tomb could not hold Jesus as the cistern could not hold Joseph
 - Joseph would later save his people → Jesus saves all
- Joseph is foreshadowing to Jesus who came to do justice, to love steadfast love and to model for us all. He calls us to follow his example (Micah 6:8)

Questions (Feel free to use all of these, some of these, or none of these)

1. What does it look like for you personally to live out Micah 6:8
2. When was a time that you actively participated in doing Justice?
3. Why do you think it is difficult for us to follow the Lord's command to do justice?
4. What do you think about the parallels between Joseph's story and the story of Jesus?
5. How can you be actively involved in justice our world instead of being "Respectably neutral"? What are some specific things to think about or to do?
6. What is God inviting you into as a result of this passage or sermon?

****15 Minutes with God Reading Plan-**

Mon: Psalm 99 Tues: Psalm 100 Wed: Psalm 101 Thurs: Psalm 102 Fri: Psalm 103

Songs from the weekend: [Raise A Hallelujah - *Bethel Music*] - [Glory to Glory - *Bethel Music*] - [Jesus We Love You - *Isabel Davis*] - [King of My Heart - *John Mark McMillan*]