

Justice & Reconciliation Where do we go from here?

SETH & JACKIE MORALES The Morales Group

He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

Micah 6:8

I put on righteousness, and it clothed me; my justice was like a robe and a turban.

Job 29:14

Doing justice, then, requires constant, sustained reflection and circumspection. If you are a Christian, and you refrain from committing adultery or using profanity or missing church, but you don't do the hard work of thinking through how to do justice in every area of life - you are failing to live justly and righteously.

Tim Keller

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.

Luke 4:18-19

WHAT CAN YOU DO INDIVIDUALLY?

AWARENESS

- Change your mentors to include more of the global, multicultural church
- Identify theological, personal, historical, and vocational blind spots
- Let awareness lead you to deeper levels of repentance, forgiveness, and prayer

Relationships

- Networks > Individuals (neighborhoods, schools, work, worship)
- Share stories, meals, and cross-cultural interactions in diverse settings like restaurants, parks, sports leagues, and events
- Put yourself under the leadership of people of color

Commitment

- Serve & donate to organizations that advocate for racial justice and reconciliation (Young Life, Like a Lion, Safe Families, Exodus Refugee, PourHouse)
- Be an engaged local citizen
- Share your social capital/networks
- Join a Be the Bridge group

WHAT ARE WE DOING INSTITUTIONALLY?

We must deconstruct the implicit normalization of white culture in order to rebuild a more just, reconciled church family

What are some "Soma norms" that might need to be re-imagined, discarded, or even repented of because they perpetuate racial segregation?

- Missional Communities
- Worship
- Preaching
- Internal Hiring Culture
- Kids Ministry
- Aesthetics

Next Steps

- Listening Health Survey, Focus Groups
- Leadership Elders, Advisory Team, Staffing
- Sunday Gatherings