

Week 4: Where is the God of justice?

Read 2:17-3:5

• Initially, what stands out to you?

Watch the Video: Session IV

- What did you see in the video that means the most to you?
- What questions do you have?

Does God Have It Backwards?

- Pastor Jon talked in the video about Israel thinking that God was doing things backwards. They saw the righteous people being treated poorly and the unrighteous prospering. In small groups, discuss the following questions:
 - O Describe a time when you looked around and thought the wicked were prospering and the righteous were being mistreated. How did you respond?
 - How might you respond to someone who thinks that God has it backwards?

Complaints

- All of us at times are tempted to come to God with questions or complaints that are selfish or rebellious in nature. Take a moment and think of a time or times when you were angry or upset with God. Discuss the following questions in your small groups:
 - When you were angry with God, what were some of the questions you asked? What were your complaints?
 - O What do you think it means to weary God with complaining?

Read Matthew 7:1-5

- What are some common interpretations of this passage?
- What is the significance of Jesus inviting his disciples to take the log out of their own eye so they can deal with their friend's speck? How might that go against a common cultural interpretation of this passage?



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God Shapes Us

- In the video, Pastor Jon talked about how God works to purify us, or make us more like Jesus. In small groups, talk about the following questions:
 - How has God used other people or your circumstances to purify you by his Spirit?
 - How have spiritual disciplines helped you walk more closely with God?

Where do we go from here? (Large Group Discussion)

• How can we have joy even in the midst of trials?



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