

YOUTH GROUP RESOURCE

WEEK OVERVIEW

Week 1: What is Justice

Week 2: Living out Justice

Week 3: Climate Justice & Food Insecurity

Week 4: Faith in Action

(Planning for the World Vision 40 Hour Challenge)



WEEK 1:

WHAT IS JUSTICE AND WHY DOES GOD CARE?

Learn that justice is about restoring what's broken and God has a heart for justice.

RESTORATION RELAY.

Object: Show that God's justice is about restoring what's broken.

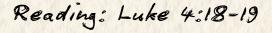
Aim: Be the first team to put all the broken items back together.

Materials:

Torn piece of paper Lego structure Tangled rope/string Puzzle

Steps:

- 1. Set up four different stations for each team: paper, Lego, rope, puzzle.
- 2. Split the group up into teams of 4-5.
- Racing each other at the same time, teams must work together to put all the items back together.
 - Tape the torn piece of paper
 - Remake the lego structure
 - Untangle the rope
 - Complete the puzzle
- 4. The first team to complete all of their stations wins.



Teaching:

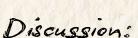
Justice is about fairness, righteousness and making things right.

Linking back to the game: when we did the restoration relay we had to put different items back together, we had to try to restore them. Biblical justice is about restoring what is broken (injustice is all about broken relationships).

God has a heart for justice. Justice is at the core of who God is. (Psalm 89:14).

Jesus' mission on Earth was about bringing restoration to the world (restoring what has been broken due to sin) (Luke 4:18-19).





Where do you see injustice in the world today?

How do you think God feels about those situations?

How is Jesus an example of living out justice?

Impact story:

There are stories of justice being restored from across the world. Child sponsorship enabled Nancy, from Kenya, to stay in school. Her and her sister were the first two girls to graduate high school from her community. She then went on to study at university and get her Master's Degree. Through education, communities have a pathway to break out of cycles of poverty.

NANCY'S STORY

What now?

Spend some time in prayer this week asking God to show you some areas of your life you could pursue justice.







WEEK 2:

WE ARE CALLED TO LIVE OUT JUSTICE

Explore God's call on our lives to be justice-orientated and how we can live that out.





JUSTICE WALK.

Object: Demonstrates how we already live out justice in our lives and what areas we can pursue it.

Materials:

List of justice prompts.

Steps:

- Have all the youth stand together in a horizontal line.
- 2. A leader reads out the list of justice prompts. If a youth has experience with or relates to the prompt they step forward.
- 3. At the end, the students can see how they are already involved in acts of justice and where they can pursue justice further.
- 4. Share with students that they don't need to participate if they don't feel comfortable as it could make people feel self-conscious about their choices.

Note: this activity could be adapted so that everyone stands in a circle and switches to another place in the circle if they relate to the prompt.

Prompts:

I've volunteered my time to help others

I've given my resources (money, food, clothes, etc.) to those in need.

I've prayed for people affected by injustice

I've heard about an issue of injustice and it made me sad

I've read about how Jesus worked towards justice for people

I've signed a petition before

I've had a conversation with someone about an issue I thought was unjust

I've heard stories about how justice has been restored to communities

I've been to a protest before

I hope to make the world a better place

Reading: Micah 6:8

Teaching:

Last week we talked about what justice is and why God cares about justice. Today, we will explore how God wants our lives to be justiceorientated.

In the Bible God calls us to live out justice (Micah 6:8). When we did the justice walk (activity), we explored how we currently live out justice in our lives and perhaps ways we can pursue it more.

Living out justice is an expression of God's character; when we pursue justice, others see God at work within us. Jesus is an example of living out justice (healed the sick, defended the outcast, stood up for the oppressed). We can take part in the World Vision 40 Hour Challenge as a way to live out justice.



Discussion:

If you could restore justice to one aspect of our world, what would you choose?

Why do you think it can sometimes be hard to choose justice?

Have you heard about the World Vision 40 Hour Challenge before? Have you ever taken part?

Impact story:

One of the ways we can live out justice is through advocacy. This means raising awareness and encouraging action on issues of injustice. In the Solomon Islands, communities are advocating for the end of child marriage by calling on the Solomon Islands' government to raise the legal age of marriage from 15-18 years.

MAKE IT 18 CAMPAIGN

What now?

As you go into your week start thinking about signing up for the World Vision 40 Hour Challenge and encourage your mates to as well.



WEEK 3:

JUSTICE AND FOOD INSECURITY

Understand how the climate crisis is causing injustice through food insecurity and the way it is impacting communities like Polyne's.



FOOD JUSTICE QUIZ.

Object: Help youth understand some key ideas around food insecurity.

Aim: Get the most correct answers.

Steps:

- A leader labels each corner of the room: A, B, C, D.
- 2. The leader reads out the first question and provides the possible answers to go with each corner of the room.
- 3. Youth choose which corner of the room they go to depending on what they think the answer is.
- 4. Leader shares the correct answer and repeats the process with each question.

Quiz questions:

- 1. Approximately how many supermarkets are there in Aotearoa? Answer: b.
- a. 2000-2500
- b. 3500 4000
- c. 5000 5500
- d. 6000
- 2. What percentage of the global population lives in food-insecure positions? Answer: c. 12%
- a. 4%
- b. 9%
- c. 12%
- d. 20%

- 3. What is one cause leading to food insecurity? Answer: a, b, c, d
- a. Conflict and war
- b. Climate change
- c. Poverty
- d. Food waste
- 4. What is one way food insecurity resulting from the climate crisis can be addressed? Answer: a
- a. Farmers receive and plant climate resilient seeds
- b. Ignore the issue
- c. Increasing the use of pesticides
- d. Eliminate farming and only rely on food imports

Reading: Matthew 25: 31-40

Teaching:

Video: Polyne's story

For many children living in the Solomon Islands, their communities have lived on the land, getting their food from fishing and farming. The climate crisis is starting to impact the fishing and farming of these communities.

It is now getting hard for these children to have enough food to eat with food insecurity becoming a bigger issue for children in the Pacific.

The parable of the sheep and goats teaches how God calls us to care for his people; when we care for his people we are caring for Jesus himself. The rise in food insecurity experienced by children like Polyne is unjust and God wants us to do something about it as he calls us to live out our lives with justice.

This year's World Vision 40 Hour Challenge is raising money to support communities in the Pacific region who are affected by food insecurity due to the climate crisis. This will raise money for tools and seeds to farm climate-smart crops, and plant mangroves to protect gardens.

Discussion:

Have you ever seen or experienced an environmental problem? What impact did it have on the land and the surrounding communities?

What do you think it means that what we do for the people around us we also do for Jesus?

Why do we have a responsibility as Christians to respond to the climate crisis and food insecurity.

Impact story:

POLYNE'S STORY

What now2

Sign yourself up for the World Vision 40 Hour Challenge if you haven't already done so!





WEEK 4:

FAITH IN ACTION

Aim: Explore why faith in action is important and how the WV 40 Hour Challenge fits into this.





ACTION RELAY.

Object: Show how action is a big part of faith.

Materials:

Mats/squares/pillows (each team should have 1-2 less than their number of teammates depending on how tricky you want to make it).

Steps:

- 1. Youth are split into teams of 4-5.
- 2. The teams start on one side of the room and have to get their whole team to the other side of the room without anyone touching the floor.
- 3. The teams can only use the mats/squares/pillows provided. If a teammate touches the floor they go back to the start.
- The first team to make it to the other side wins.

Reading: James 2:14-26 Teaching:

When we were doing the action relay we had to work together and take action together to get our teammates across to the other side. Faith is a little like that, working together and taking action together is one way we can live out faith.

Being part of action is how we can express our faith (James 2:14-17).

Taking part in this year's World Vision 40 Hour Challenge is one way we can put faith into action. It actively raises funds and awareness for those facing injustice resulting from the climate crisis. Brainstorm how we want to do the 40 Hour Challenge; how do we want to go offline?

Discussion:

What did James mean when he wrote that faith by itself without action is dead?

What's the longest time you've been offline? How did it feel?

What now?

Explore how you want to take part in the challenge.

- Plan out your challenge: will you do 40 hours no social media, 40 hours no phone or maybe even 40 hours no electricity.
- Come up with a fundraising goal, be ambitious!
- Think of three people who can sponsor you (you could start with yourself, ask your youth leader, a friend).







