



October 15, 2023

Righteousness and Justice | Proverbs 8:19-31

Matt Kinniburgh

## S U M M A R Y

This past weekend we continued our series in the Proverbs by looking at the theme of righteousness and justice. God has created the world to live by the melody of wisdom and written into this melody are the themes of righteousness and justice. We live in harmony with the wisdom of creation by living righteous and just lives.

## R E A D

Proverbs 8:19-31 | Proverbs 11:1 | Proverbs 15:25 | Matthew 6:33

*Pause. Take time to prayerfully consider what has been read.*

## D I S C U S S

- 1) How have you understood the meaning of righteousness and justice?

J.W. Olley writes, that righteousness is "to bring about right and harmony for all, for individuals, related in the community and to the physical and spiritual realms. It finds its basis in God's rule of the world."

Bruce Walte writes, "Since 'righteousness' refers to the moral quality that establishes right order and 'justice' refers to the moral quality that restores that order when disturbed, they frequently occur together."

- 2) How does this change your perspective on these two words?

- 3) If dishonest scales and moving boundary markers are examples of unjust behaviours in the times of Proverbs, what would be some examples today?
- 4) If greed and discontentedness motivated those behaviours, what motivates the examples of unjust behaviours today?

## R E S P O N D

Matt described wisdom as being the melody by which the creation was made and that lives of justice and righteousness are how we live in harmony with wisdom and creation.

How might Jesus be inviting you individually or as a group to join in with this song of righteousness this week?

How are you singing a discordant tune through heart postures that lead to injustice? What step can you take this week to attune your heart to his?

*Share how the Spirit is inviting you to respond today and the week to come – to **be with** Jesus, to **become like** Jesus, or to **do what** Jesus does.*

## P R A Y

Ask Jesus where he is longing to bring harmony to your lives and our community, as you listen share these things and join Jesus in his prayers that things may happen on earth as it is in heaven.

*Take time to wait and pray together. What is Jesus praying for? Come into agreement with His prayers.*

