Prayers for Justice

Tim McDaniel, associate director of communications at the North Georgia Conference, celebrates our call to act with justice. Have you ever witnessed the compelling nature of moving water? From rainwater hurrying down the side of a street to the persuasive waves in the ocean—moving water seems to travel like it is alive with a purpose.

The Bible teaches us that God's justice flows with this same intention and aim. The waters of justice are described as an intense current that overtakes injustice and inequality. Justice is powerful and commanding—yet cleansing and pure.

When we as Christians expand our imagination and our energy toward advocacy; when we work to remove the discrimination that is built into our social, political, economic, and religious systems; and when we find new and effective ways to take up the cause of the powerless, then we find that justice rolls through the land like water, and righteousness travels like an ever-flowing river.

Our gracious God longs for us to be advocates for this type of fairness, equality, and integrity. Daily, we are faced with the choice to either thrust open the floodgates enabling God's justice to bring hope into an unjust world or hold justice back like a stagnate pool of water. Micah 6:8 helps us meet this struggle by reminding us of our call from God to act with, and seek out, justice. Let us remember that, though the floodgates of justice may be heavy, God calls us to open them wider to bring help and hope to a hurting world.



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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

June 2006

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 God, you are worthy to receive glory, honor, and power, for you made all things, and by your will they were created. Rev. 4:11	2 God, help us to be wise and faithful stewards who justly share the world's resources. Matt. 25:21	3 God, encourage us to be sensitive to our race, nation- ality, ethnic back- ground, gender, sexuality, and physical differ- ences. Rom. 13:7
4 God, enable our churches to provide a safe environment, counsel, and support for victims of violence and abuse. Luke 10:30-37	5 God, we pray persons who are dying or mourning the loss of a loved one will receive strength and tender, loving care. Matt. 25:36	6 God, in humility may we regard other people as equally valuable and precious in your sight. Phil. 2:3	7 God, we pray for the wellbeing of all children. Protect them from exploitation and abuse. John 17:15; 1 John 4:4	8 God, we lift up the aging and infirm. May they receive justice, respect, compassion, and proper care. Lev. 19:32	9 God, equip us to tirelessly advocate on behalf of individuals with mental, physical, and developmental disabilities. Heb. 13:21	10 God, grant all persons access to housing, education, employment, health care, and legal representation. 2 Cor. 8:13
11 God, we pray that different racial and ethnic groups and cultures worldwide will live in harmony and mutual respect. 2 Cor. 5:18-19	12 God, break the strongholds of evil. May people repent from their involvement in immorality, injustices, and discrimination. Ezek. 14:6	13 God, may your justice roll on like a river and your righteousness flow like a never-failing stream! Amos 5:24	14 God, grant hope, strength, and perseverance to persons who suffer from poverty, in- justice, oppression, and disease. Rom. 5:1-5	to answer your call to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you every day of our lives. Micah 6:8	16 God, we lift up the homeless and persons who are unemployed or struggling finan- cially. Help them find shelter and new jobs. Isa. 58:7	17 God, raise up leaders who work to facilitate justice and improve the safety, education, and welfare of the oppressed. Ps. 9:9
18 God, empower churches and agencies to attack and alleviate the root causes of hunger. Matt. 25:35	19 God, transform those persons liv- ing in poverty. May they learn new skills and gain eco- nomic indepen- dence. Acts 20:35	20 God, grant us hearts filled with compassion so that we will reach out and administer true justice to one another. Zec. 7:9-10	21 God, give us courage to defend the poor and the powerless. May justice reign throughout the lands. Ps. 72:4	22 God, reveal new and effective ways we can open the floodgates of justice and bring hope to a hurting world. Job 5:16	23 God, appoint godly government leaders who carry out justice according to your plan, will, and purpose. Rom. 13:1	24 God, grant our leaders guidance, wisdom, boldness, and strength to justly tackle the challenges they face. Prov. 28:2
25 God, may our justice system protect the rights of all individuals regardless of social or economic status. Ps. 22:23-28	26 God, enable us to respond with love when we seek to change our social, political, and economic systems. 1 Cor. 13:1-8	27 God, we pray for peace to rule in our hearts, homes, neighborhoods, churches, nation, and world. Lev. 26:6	28 God, comfort and protect inno- cent victims of con- flict and people who live in harm's way. Prov. 18:5	29 God, empower our churches to be faithful and relevant in addressing the needs of people. Deut. 15:11	30 God, bless all who maintain love and justice. Enable them to do what is right, and wait on you always. Ps. 106:3; Isa. 56:1	www.ngumc.org