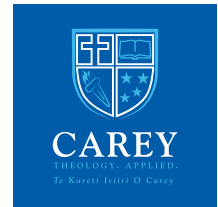


CAREY Sunday discussion ideas



Discussion ideas for home groups

On Sunday, Michael tried to answer the question “what’s the point of the people of God?,” drawing primarily from the story of Abraham in Genesis, the prophecies of Isaiah, and the way Jesus fulfills those Abrahamic and prophetic expectations in the gospels. How does this understanding compare to the way you have typically thought about the ‘point’ or ‘purpose’ of the people of God?

Michael suggested “justice and righteousness” stand at the center of God’s purposes for his people. Re-read Job 29:12–17, and discuss:

- How does this understanding of justice and righteousness compare to the way you’ve thought about those words in the past?
- Job faithfully exercises power on behalf of the vulnerable. Look carefully at the categories of the vulnerable in the passage and consider: who are their modern day counterparts in your world? And what would it look like for you and your church community to exercise justice and righteousness in relation to them and on their behalf?

Share one concrete action step you can take to pursue the justice and righteousness that God longs for from his people.

Spend some time in prayer that Jesus would transform his people, establishing them as a vehicle of his own blessing in the world. Pray for those vulnerable members of your community you talked about earlier.

Further readings from Michael

- [God’s Kingdom has a Startling Economic System](http://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/gods-kingdom-economic-system) (www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/gods-kingdom-economic-system) contains an excerpt from Michael and Robby Holt’s book [Practicing the King’s Economy: Honoring Jesus in How We Work, Earn, Spend, Save, and Give](http://chalmers.org/resources/books/practicing-the-kings-economy) (chalmers.org/resources/books/practicing-the-kings-economy).
- [Paul’s Letter to a Prejudiced Church](http://www.christianitytoday.com/ct/2021/march/paul-corinthians-multiethnic-churches-struggle-with-racism.html) (www.christianitytoday.com/ct/2021/march/paul-corinthians-multiethnic-churches-struggle-with-racism.html) considers what Paul’s words to the Corinthians about the Lord’s Supper mean for multi-ethnic churches today. *Christianity Today* cover story, March 2021.
- [Should We Repent of Our Grandparents’ Racism? Scripture on Intergenerational Sin](http://hebraicthought.org/repenting-intergenerational-racist-ideology-scripture-intergenerational-sin) (hebraicthought.org/repenting-intergenerational-racist-ideology-scripture-intergenerational-sin) explores what the Bible’s teaching on intergenerational sin contributes to the church’s ongoing struggle with racism. *The Biblical Mind*.
- Michael is currently working on a book for IVP Academic on what Scripture says about discipleship that leads to justice. You can get a glimpse of some of that research in [Moses’ Guide to Post-Pandemic Parties](http://www.christianitytoday.com/ct/2021/may-web-only/moses-guide-to-post-pandemic-parties-biblical-feasts.html) (www.christianitytoday.com/ct/2021/may-web-only/moses-guide-to-post-pandemic-parties-biblical-feasts.html), *Christianity Today*, 2021; and [Instead of Fearing Loss of Political Power, Christians Should Consider the Daniel Option](http://hebraicthought.org/politics-and-religion-evangelicals-daniel-joseph) (hebraicthought.org/politics-and-religion-evangelicals-daniel-joseph), *Center for Hebraic Thought*, 2020.

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