

VOLUNTEER DEVOTIONAL

ON THE
FLIP
SIDE

STUDY

The world is full of injustice — things that are aching to be made right. We see them, we experience them, and sometimes feel powerless around them. You may be thinking that your life is already too complicated for you to begin thinking about the injustices you see or experience. But Jesus has some things to say about what's possible and who he chooses to "do justice" through. This month, allow the stories where Jesus flips the ideas of justice and righteousness to impact the way you think. You may feel small and insignificant in comparison to the looming issues of our time. Jesus came not only to make things new but to help you be a part of that restoration. As you listen and notice how the flip side is a place where you can grow, the teenagers you lead will begin to notice and grow, too.

To get ready for this series, **spend a few minutes reading the stories we'll be teaching students this month.** As you do, think about what God has taught you (and is still teaching you) about worship through these passages, and how these Big Ideas have been true in your life.

WEEK 1: Jesus flipped our assumptions about who God values. Matthew 5:1-12; Micah 6:8; Psalm 139:13-14

WEEK 2: God flips our definition of righteousness. Isaiah 58:1-9; Matthew 22:36-40; 1 Corinthians 13:1-3

WEEK 3: Jesus flipped our understanding of what's good enough. Matthew 5:38-48; Ephesians 2:4-7; Colossians 3:12-13

WEEK 4: God flips our definition of justice. Psalm 99:1-9; Zechariah 7:9; Romans 5:6-11, 12:19-21

PRAY

What are some ways you've counted yourself out when it comes to conversations about justice and restoration? It's not always easy to recognize the assumptions we grew up believing or understanding what "right" is after it's been handed down to us. But God wants to flip our understanding of what's good enough and give us a new definition of justice that works with our personality and gifts. Spend some time praying and listening to what God might be saying to you about the flip side of things you grew up believing.

Which passage of Scripture or Big Idea from this month is most relevant to you right now?

Spend a few minutes asking God to show you how you've already grown in this area, plus the next step you need to take in order to keep growing.

GROW

So what's your next step? Do you need to work through an assumption that some kinds of people are less valuable? It's a tough conversation to have alone, it might be good to invite someone you trust to give you feedback and encouragement. Is there an injustice that you've been ignoring that Jesus is asking you to pay attention to? Is God giving you an invitation to see justice differently?

Whatever your next step is right now, take it. Then help students do the same.