



BIG IDEA

God makes wrong things right through Jesus.

BIBLE

Deuteronomy 32:3–4; Romans 3:21–26

ABOUT THIS WEEK

God is fair and always does what's right. Sin can't just be ignored, but God fixed what was broken by sending Jesus to take our place. At the cross, His justice and mercy came together, showing us what real righteousness looks like.

WHAT? What are we talking about today?

HOOK – That's not fair!

- Have you ever been blamed for something you didn't do? Or maybe you've seen someone break a rule and walk away without any consequences.

SPEAKER NOTE: *Share a short personal story of an unfair situation—something relatable but light, like a group project or work scenario.*

- We've all had those moments that make us say, "That's not fair!"
 - And that feeling—that deep sense that wrong things should be made right—actually says something powerful about the way God designed us.
- That sense of justice comes from Him.
 - We were created in the image of a God who always does what's right, who never lies, never cheats, never manipulates, and never bends the truth for convenience.

SLIDE – GOD IS JUST.

- But that word *justice* can sound complicated or political.
 - We hear it used everywhere—"social justice," "criminal justice," "environmental justice."
 - But before any of those existed, justice was God's idea.
- It's not just something He does—it's **who He is**.
 - **SLIDE - Deuteronomy 32:4**

- Let's break that down for a second.

SO WHAT? Why does it matter to God and to us?

- Moses describes four things about God that change how we see justice:
- **"He is the Rock."**
 - He's unshakable and dependable. People change their minds; culture shifts its standards. But God's character never wavers.

SPEAKER NOTE: You might say, "When everything else feels unstable—college choices, relationships, family—God is still steady."

- **"His works are perfect."**
 - Every decision He makes is good and complete.
Even when you don't understand what He's doing, there's no regret or oversight in His plan.
 - **"All His ways are just."**
 - He doesn't play favorites. He can't be bribed or manipulated.
 - His standards don't shift based on who's watching.
 - God always acts in a way that's perfectly balanced between truth and love.
 - **"A faithful God who does no wrong."**
 - You can trust Him completely.
 - There's no corruption, no hidden agenda, no half-truths.
 - He doesn't twist things to protect Himself—He acts out of goodness every time.
 - **SLIDE – GOD IS FULL OF JUSTICE AND MERCY.**
 - But here's where the tension comes in.
 - If God is perfectly just, that means sin has to be dealt with.
And that's where we come in.
 - We like to think of justice as something that applies to "bad people out there." But the truth is—if we're honest—we all fall short of the standard we demand from others.
 - We lie. We gossip. We manipulate. We hurt people. We justify it all with, "Well, at least I'm not as bad as..."
 - But sin isn't just bad behavior—it's rebellion against a holy God.
 - And because God is just, He can't just ignore it.
 - Justice demands payment.
 - So God—being both just *and* loving—did something no one else would:
He stepped in Himself.
 - **SLIDE – GOD MAKES WRONG THINGS RIGHT THROUGH JESUS.**
 - Romans 3:23–26 says that through Jesus, God demonstrated His justice by dealing with sin **and** His mercy by forgiving us.
 - At the cross, justice and mercy didn't cancel each other out—they *completed* each other.
 - The punishment for sin didn't disappear; it was transferred—to Jesus.
 - And in return, we received forgiveness and freedom.
 - That's the heartbeat of the Gospel.
 - God's justice isn't about condemnation—it's about restoration.
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- So if God is just, how should His people live? What does it mean to reflect His justice in a world that often gets it wrong?
- 1. **SLIDE – STAND FOR WHAT’S RIGHT, NOT WHAT’S POPULAR.**
 - Real justice doesn’t follow the crowd; it follows Christ.
That means speaking up for what’s true, even when it costs you.
It means refusing to laugh at cruelty or ignore someone being mistreated.
Justice begins when your convictions matter more than your comfort.
- 2. **SLIDE – TELL THE TRUTH, EVEN WHEN IT COSTS YOU.**
 - Integrity matters. Being honest when lying would be easier, or owning up when you mess up—that’s how you live out God’s justice in small, daily ways.
- 3. **SLIDE – SHOW MERCY WHEN YOU’RE WRONGED.**
 - Because justice without mercy becomes revenge.
 - God didn’t give you what you deserved; He gave you grace. So offer that same grace to others.

*SPEAKER NOTE: You could pause here to say,
“If you’re holding bitterness against someone right now, releasing it doesn’t mean pretending it didn’t hurt—it means trusting that God is better at making things right than you are.”*

Closing

- This week, notice where things around you feel broken or unfair. That could be something in the news, your school, or your relationships.
- Ask yourself: “What would God’s justice look like in this situation?”
 - Then take one small step—pray, speak up, or show mercy.
 - Because every time you live out God’s justice, you give the world a glimpse of who He really is.

SLIDE – GOD MAKES WRONG THINGS RIGHT THROUGH JESUS.

Closing Prayer

God, thank You for being fair, merciful, and trustworthy.

Thank You for making things right through Jesus.

Help us live in a way that reflects Your justice and mercy this week. Amen.
