



The
JUSTICE
of God

SESSION 6



Prep

Plan on spending 10 minutes without your kids to familiarize yourself with this session.

Begin with prayer, asking God for His wisdom and guidance. Read through the session to:

- Be sure to understand the Big Idea and the Key Verse
- Preview the video
- Select the best questions in the **TALK** section and activities in the **DO** section for your family

Understanding the Justice of God

Background information from the Bible about God's character.

1. God's justice means that people are going to get what they deserve based on God's clear and full understanding of what they did and why they did it.

Your eyes are open to the ways of all mankind; you reward each person according to their conduct and as their deeds deserve. (Jeremiah 32:19 NIV; See also Colossians 3:25)

Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account. (Hebrews 4:13 NIV)

2. God's justice is impartial and fair. He cannot be bribed, tricked or coerced into passing biased judgments.

For the LORD your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who shows no partiality and accepts no bribes. (Deuteronomy 10:17 NIV)

3. We do not always understand God's justice. While life is not always fair, we know that He does not treat people unfairly.

The Almighty is beyond our reach and exalted in power; in his justice and great righteousness, he does not oppress. (Job 37:23 NIV)

4. God's heart is for everyone to receive mercy and enter His family through faith in Jesus. Therefore, God may delay His justice.

The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance. (2 Peter 3:9 NIV)



Big Idea:

LIFE'S NOT ALWAYS FAIR. GOD IS.

God's justice gives evil what it deserves. Every wrong will be made right. Justice is not a standard God follows. He IS the standard. Truth is, bad things happen to people who don't deserve it. We can trust God because He will set all things right, and His justice will be satisfied.



Key Verse:

PSALM 50:6 (NLT)

Then let the heavens proclaim His justice,
for God himself will be the judge.

Watch

Set up the video for your family:

"We're going to watch a video that tells a story to teach us something about God. Let's pay attention and see if we can discover what the story says about God."

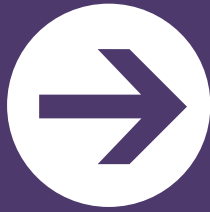


CLOSED CIRCUIT



Choose a few questions to best help your family talk about the video.

- What did you like most about the video?
- What was the point of the video? What did it teach about God?
- Can you relate to Ellie, the girl who was bullied? Have you ever had something happen to you that was totally unfair? What happened? Did it ever get resolved?
- Read the Big Idea and Key Verse.
- In your opinion, what does it mean that God is just?
- When you are treated unfairly, how do you feel? What is your natural impulse?
- Do you feel like you've treated anyone unfairly in the last week? If so, what happened? Is there anything you can do to make it right?
- In the video, the narrator says, "God sees you. He watches over you. He knows your good days and your bad days. You are never forgotten, never left alone. And He promises in the end He will make all things right." How does this make you feel? What could it look like for you to trust God's justice?



Do

Ideas to help your family understand God's character for the rest of the week.

Print the **"TAKEAWAY"** sheet (included in this guide) and put up a few around your house (refrigerator, bathroom mirror, etc.). Encourage your kids to read the verse every morning and every night. One option is to memorize the verse as a family.

Morning Questions (at breakfast or on the ride to school)
(pick one for each morning):

- If you get treated unfairly today, how will you try to respond?
- If you see someone else being treated unfairly, what can you do to help?
- Describe a situation that might happen today where you will be tempted to treat someone unfairly.

Questions for the evening in the car on the way home from school or dinner time
(pick one for each evening):

- Did you see anyone get treated unfairly today? What happened? How did you help?
- How do you think God's justice is different than human justice?

Stories are powerful! Think through a few stories of God's justice and share a couple this week. Be vulnerable, as this will encourage your kids. Here are a few prompts to get you thinking: Describe a time when you were treated unfairly, and how you responded. Share a time when you treated someone else unfairly and what you did to make it right.

Cheater! Pick a simple card game to play as a family (Go Fish, Crazy 8's, War, etc.). For the first couple rounds, cheat in a way that's obvious. Deal the other cards face up, stack your hand, do whatever it takes to win in a way that's totally unfair. Play with a straight face, like you're doing nothing wrong. When the time is right, say, "This was just a silly example that life isn't always fair, but the Bible teaches us that God is. Let's now play for real."

If your kids have a mobile phone, text them a few times this week. Here are a few suggestions:

- Don't forget: life isn't always fair, but God is!
- "Then let the heavens proclaim his justice, for God himself will be the judge." (Psalm 50:6 NLT)
- I'm praying for you today—that you'll be treated fairly and I trust you to treat others fairly.
Love you!
- Be just like God is just. Try to treat everyone fairly today!
- I know it can be discouraging when we're treated unfairly. Trust God and resist the urge to get payback.



Takeaway

Print this out, put it in a place where your family can read it once or twice a day.



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