



### October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017 Discussion Guide

#### "Who Needs God: Injustice for All" Luke 18:1-8

##### Introduction

We would all love to rid the world of injustice. The only way to recognize injustice is to identify what justice is in the first place. Christ followers look to God and Christ as the standard for justice. If God and Christ are removed from the equation, where then do we look for the standards of right and fair that we hold each other accountable to? Who gets to decide those standards, if not God? You? Me? Who?

##### Discussion Questions

1. When has injustice entered into your personal world? If you are a believer in God/Christ, how did you process that injustice with Him?
2. Have you known someone who has suffered in an extraordinary way, but has at the same time demonstrated extraordinary trust in God? On the flip side, [no names please], have you known someone whose suffering turned him or her against God and harmed their faith? Did either of those situations have any impact on your faith in God?
3. It has been said that when we reject God over injustice, we don't solve injustice, we lose our ability to define it. Do you understand that statement? Do you agree or disagree with it?
4. Read the parable Jesus told that is recorded by Luke in the 18th chapter of his history of Jesus, vss. 1-8. We call it the **Parable of The Unjust Judge**. Jesus is teaching about the need for persistence in prayer. Have you ever felt like the lady in this story – praying for God to right a wrong or relieve some suffering – and he just never responded? Did you give up praying? Did you keep at it? What finally happened? If God never came through to your satisfaction, did you ever figure out why? Did any greater good eventually come out of his "no" answer? Feel free to be candid if it didn't.
5. In this parable, Jesus speaks of his return to earth someday and he asks the question, "Will I find any faith on the earth at that time?" Why would Jesus wonder if there will be any faithful people left on earth in the context of this Parable?



6. Is there something you could do this week to help bring some relief to suffering, or offer a little fairness and dignity into a situation where somebody isn't being treated right? Anything your group might be able to do together to help make a bad situation a little better?

**Moving Forward:**

The man who stands at the center of all we believe was treated extraordinarily unfairly. The man who taught us that all people have inherent value was executed. The man whose definitions of good and just informs our definitions of good and just, was treated unjustly. Evil and injustice are not arguments against the existence of God. They are evidence of our need for his mercy and grace. Who needs God? We all do. Desperately.

**I John 4:7-8**

<sup>7</sup>Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup>Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.