

Heart of Compassion, Mercy & Justice

Definition: To embrace God's heart for the poor & oppressed, making a commitment to work for mercy and justice for others.

Relevant Scripture

Isaiah 61

Luke 4:18-19

Zechariah 7:8-10

Matthew 25:31-46

Suggested Study

When Helping Hurts: *How to Alleviate Poverty Without Hurting the Poor...and Yourself* by Steve Corbet & Brian Fikkert (2012 edition)

On-going Practice/Spiritual Disciplines

1. Actively pray for and pursue racial reconciliation and justice in our society.
2. Sacrificially serve in a ministry of compassion and mercy across cultural or economic lines (i.e. Freedom Fire in KC).
3. Cultivate friends and/or attend worship services in churches of different racial/ethnic compositions.

Suggested Experiences

- Take part in a short-term mission trip in a developing country.
- Volunteer to tutor an hour a week with *The Tutoring Club@Deerbrook* during the school year.
- Speak up when in the presence of racist remarks and behavior.
- Research the resources, events & courses available at <https://covchurch.org/mercy-justice/>

Additional resources:

- **The Heart of Racial Justice:** *How Soul Change Leads to Social Change* by Brenda Salter McNeil & Rick Richardson
- **Welcoming Justice:** *God's Movement Toward Beloved Community* by Charles March & John M. Perkins
- Wide variety of Covenant Resource Papers <https://covchurch.org/topic/love-mercy-do-justice/> **including "The Evangelical Covenant Church and The Ministry of Compassion, Mercy, and Justice"**
<https://covchurch.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2011/01/35.-Covenant-Resource-Paper-CMJ-5.17.pdf>

