

TACKLING INJUSTICE

SPECIAL DAYS

PREPARATION

- ➔ Select [Helping-Hand Appeal](#) resources that explore how International Development supports communities
- ➔ Plan a fundraising event for the Helping-Hand Appeal - visit salvationarmy.org.uk for ideas
- ➔ Display the 30 articles of the [Declaration of Human Rights](#) or print them out (you may wish to cut them up individually)
- ➔ Prepare to use the [Human Rights quiz](#) from un.org

Be sensitive in case this is a difficult topic for some members.

INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND

International Development Week in October is an opportunity to explore, celebrate and support The Salvation Army's work tackling poverty and injustice around the world.

It never feels good when you are treated unfairly or blamed for something that you did not do. All of us would agree that using force or fraud to exploit another person is wrong. We all carry within us an innate sense of right and wrong.

Stop for a moment and think about what emotions are stirred up inside you when you have a sense of injustice against you or someone you know. It's quite natural to want justice!

Justice in its simplest definition means a protection of rights and punishment of wrongs. Yet how do we know what is right? Who defines what is 'right'? The United Nations Declaration of Human Rights is one attempt. Created in 1948, this was a common standard of achievements for all peoples and all nations. It set out fundamental human rights to be universally protected and it has been translated into over 500 languages.

Tackling injustice

You can find out more about how The Salvation Army is fighting injustice across the world by subscribing to our [Develop magazine](#) and [Develop podcasts](#).



ACTIVITIES

DISCUSS

Share the 30 articles within the *Declaration of Human Rights*.

You may want to discuss them as a group. Alternatively, in pairs or small groups, decide if you wish to tackle all 30 or share the articles out.

Potential question prompts

- * What does this article mean?
- * Do you agree with it?
- * Is there any aspect you think is missing?
- * How would you explain it to someone who doesn't speak English very well?
- * When this human right is being applied, what does this look like?
- * When this human right is not being applied, what might it look like?

QUIZ

Test your group's knowledge of [Human Rights](#) with a quiz from un.org. You could print off copies, display on a screen or read the questions aloud; whatever works best for your group.

FUNDRAISE

Share resources from this year's [Helping-Hand Appeal](#).

Ask members: Which human rights are being supported with the appeal?

As a group, plan a fundraising event for the [Helping-Hand Appeal](#).

BIBLE READING/THOUGHT

As people who follow Christ, our sense of justice is defined not by a UN convention, but by our Creator God. Our God is loving, kind, compassionate and merciful. He is also righteous, holy and just.

 'He is the Rock, his works are perfect,
and all his ways are just.
A faithful God who does no wrong,
upright and just is he.'

(Deuteronomy 32:4)



Justice is part of God's character, which means justice is simply who he is. This was demonstrated in the life of Jesus. The very act of Jesus living a perfect and sinless life, dying a sacrificial death on the cross, and rising again to make right what was wrong - our sin - is the very essence of God demonstrating that he is a just God.

Jesus pursued justice physically and spiritually by rescuing those in need, through the healing of physical diseases and forgiveness of sins.

So as his followers, it makes complete sense for us to tackle injustice! We are called to confront injustice, to care for the vulnerable and to make right that which is wrong.

One of our favourite verses in our International Development team is:

📖 'And what does the Lord require of you?
To act justly and to love mercy
and to walk humbly with your God.'

(Micah 6:8)

Biblical justice starts by seeing people as God sees them and recognising that we are all created in the image of God. Each one of us is precious and each one of us is unique. Pursuing justice in the light of this is much bigger than picking up another social justice cause because it sounds appealing and makes us look good. It is about fully embracing the cause of the Christ of biblical justice by seeing lives reconciled to God and eternally transformed.

So, what can we do? Pursuing justice starts and continues with prayer because we know the battle is not our own. It means stepping out of our comfort zone, walking in wisdom, and allowing God to lead as he empowers us through the Holy Spirit.

PRAYER

Dear Lord,
Thank you for loving and valuing each one of us.
Thank you for the example your son Jesus Christ gave, in tackling injustice.
Open our eyes and hearts to the unfairness that is in this world, injustice that is nearby and far away.
We pray that you would show us the way to help others, so others will know that they are precious and valued.
In your name we pray. **Amen.**





SONGS

- ♪ 'God of justice (we must go)'
[Official video](#) (press cc for lyrics) by Tim Hughes (5:26)
[Lyric video](#) feat Tim Hightes by spschofield (5:19)
- ♪ SASB 998 'Beauty for brokenness'
[Brass instrumental lyric video](#) by Salvation Army Video Songbook - Kelston Stanford (4:37)
[Official lyric video](#) by Graham Kendrick Music (5:05)
[Congregational lyric video](#) by BBC Songs of Praise (2:12)
- ♪ SASB 1001 'Help us build a loving word'
[Piano instrumental lyric video](#) by Andy Toby (2:44)
- ♪ SASB 1002 'I, the Lord of sea and sky (Here I am, Lord)'
[Instrumental lyric video](#) by Peter Powers (3:55)
[Congregational lyric video](#) by Chet Valley Hymns and Songs (4:54)
[Official video](#) (press cc for lyrics) by Rings True (5:43)

WEBSITE AND CONTACT DETAILS

- Connect website: www.salvationarmy.org.uk/connect
- Family Ministries website: www.salvationarmy.org.uk/families
- Emails: familyministries@salvationarmy.org.uk
- Facebook: @sarmyfm
- Twitter: @ukifamily
- Instagram: safamily_ministries



Family Ministries

Having faith in the family

Providing intergenerational support, training and resources for

Children | Adults | Everyone



Family
Ministries
Having faith in the family