

**Introduction:**

1. Read the following two questions:
  - “Why do the innocent suffer?”
  - “Why do the unrighteous prosper?”Which of the two questions bother you the most? Why?
2. Think of an event of injustice you have personally experienced. How did it affect you?

**Understanding:**

3. Read verses 3:16 and 4:1-3. Atheists question why a God who is all powerful and in total control would allow injustice and wickedness. How can God be in control and yet there is so much wickedness in control?
4. Justice and fairness is something that everyone can relate to, and Pastor Dave shared that our intrinsic sense of justice is a clue that points us to God. How is a sense of justice a “clue” that leads to God, and what does it have to do with being made in His image?
5. Pastor Dave spoke about Arnold Schwarzenegger and how he issued a pardon to a convicted criminal because of political connections. If the governor just let your child’s killer out of prison, how would you feel? What action would you take?
6. Another very popular actor, Bill Cosby, has been all over the news of late. Where and how do you see injustice and judgment in his life?
7. Instead of immediate judgment (verse 17), God tests us (verse 18). What is this test and what is its desired result
8. Read verses 18-22. What do these verses teach us how life would be without God?
9. Look at Ecclesiastes 3:17 again: I said to myself, “God will bring into judgment both the righteous and the wicked, for there will be time for every activity, a time to judge every deed.” How does it help you, knowing that God will bring justice to the wicked?
10. Read 2 Corinthians 1:3-7. What does it teach you about God? About suffering and comfort?
11. How does 1 Peter 4:12-13 change the way you look at being tested and suffering?

**Application:**

12. Pastor Dave talked about joining the resistance to injustice? How can you comfort the oppressed and challenge injustice?
13. What is one area in which you need to exercise faith and confidence in God’s sovereign control for the upcoming week?