

**Congregation - Pursuing Justice:  
3 Steps - Become Aware, Assess Resources, and Act  
(September 2015)**

*“Learn to do what is right! Seek justice, encourage the oppressed. Defend the cause of the fatherless, plead the case of the widow.” (Isaiah 1:17)*

**1. BECOME AWARE:**

- As a community, learn some basics about Biblical justice
- Recruit members for a small group and, together, learn about some unjust situations
- As a small group or church, study a book, watch a film or invite a speaker
- Learn about justice issues in your community.
- Learn and educate about life issues like housing, employment
- Delve deeply into Scripture passages related to justice
- Pray to discern where God is leading your church
- Pray for passionate leaders

**2. ASSESS RESOURCES:**

- Church leaders with a heart for justice can have a powerful impact on the attitudes of their members.
- Congregational members who have skills (lawyers, law enforcement, social workers).
- People who are already working for justice in your community.
- Social workers and police in your community who are often willing to be invited to a conversation.
- Church members who have a passion for global issues.

**3. ACT:**

- Do a justice sermon series
- Organize a Justice Film Festival
- Mobilize resources that are already in your congregation and community
- Be supportive of those who are engaged by praying and providing words of encouragement.
- Determine if your church is a safe place for everyone. Consider those with disabilities, refugees, those who struggle with mental illness, and those who have been abused.
- Assess a church's policies and procedures for injustices.
- Explore your practices in how your church chooses leaders.
- Link community members with congregational members through conversations.
- Serve on a board of an organization in your community.
- Continually ask - are those who face injustice being empowered?
- Start small and Start soon!