

**Broken Signposts (1 of 7)**  
Small Group Discussion Questions

Join our congregation for worship in-person or online at 10:30 am each Sunday via our [Grantham Church YouTube Channel](#). If you ever miss a message, the sermons are always posted to the [recent sermons page](#) at our website and at the [Grantham Church Podcast](#) the following day, along with the sermon slides and small group discussion questions under Worship Resources. Thank you for staying connected with us!

**Sunday, February 26th 2023**



**Sermon Series:** Broken Signposts

**Sermon Title:** The Deeper Magic of God's Justice

**Scripture Reading:** John 3:19-21; 5:22-27; 8:1-11; 12:31-33

**Sermon Focus:** We can feel it in our bones. The world is broken and not as it should be. Most of us want to live in a world that is fair and just. So, why can't we seem to rid it of evil and injustice? The Gospel of John reveals that not only are our ideas and systems of justice flawed, but we are flawed. In the first message of our Lenten series, *Broken Signposts*, Pastor David shares how this broken signpost points to our need for salvation and God's deeper justice.

Thank you for going deeper in conversation with your small group in person or by video call. Use the following questions to help *guide* your small group discussion:

1. Pastor David began his message by sharing a story from the playground and the classroom when he was in kindergarten. When is your earliest memory of knowing right and wrong? Think back to a time you felt wronged or mistreated. How did you feel? Did you get to see justice in that situation?
2. Read John 3:16-21 together. John wants us to see that Jesus did not come to condemn the world, but he will judge the world and sort it all out someday. There is a real struggle between the light and the darkness that will end with God's judgment. Does knowing this give you comfort? What wrongs do you long to see made right, in your own life and in the world as a whole?
3. Pastor David said that laws are necessary in a fallen world, but "all the laws in the world can't stop evil and injustice." He said, "laws can't change a person's sinful heart. A law can't touch the racism that resides deep within. A law can't root out greed, covetousness, lust, and pride." Only the gospel can do that. How have you seen this to be true in your own life and experience?
4. Read John 8:1-11 together. Jesus' response to the trap set for him is brilliant. He disarms the crowd by pointing out their hypocrisy and that if everyone got death for their sins there would be nobody left. And the only perfect person present was Jesus, and he choose to embody mercy and grace—a *restorative* justice. If God's justice aims to restore and resurrect, why do you think we keep insisting on a justice that is punitive and retributive, when clearly it doesn't work? Also, share examples of how you've seen restorative justice change people's lives.
5. Read John 12:31-33 together. The Gospel of John wants us to see that we are caught up in a cosmic battle between the Lord and Satan—the accuser, the devil, the power of the air, the father of lies, the prince of demons, etc. Jesus must deal with the real culprit and villain behind all natural and human evil. So, we must take this seriously if we're going to work for justice in the way of Jesus. How should this knowledge set Christians apart from other justice warriors?
6. At Grantham Church, we want to hold justice and faith in Christ (and his "deeper magic of justice") together, and not separate them. How is the Spirit inviting you to work for justice in this world while also pointing others to the God who will someday save us? What would it look like to work for justice with the biblical understanding that everything isn't sorted out until the final judgment of God?
7. How do you see justice as a "broken signpost" that points to Christ?