



And It Was Good



Week 2: Working With God As We Invite God To Work In Us

1. In the sermon last week, Jeff encouraged us to commit (or re-commit) to engaging with matters of justice around us by taking 3 steps: 1) Get close enough to notice, 2) be curious and listen, and 3) be courageous enough to name injustice when we see it. Did you observe anything this past week that made you say “that is not as it should be” or “that does not live up to the good that God intended”? Do you feel a prompting to engage (or continue engaging) with a particular justice issue?
2. **Read Daniel 3.** In what ways does this story relate to the theme of justice? How does Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego’s standing up for their faith intersect with working for justice in society? What are some contemporary examples of individuals or groups who have faced persecution for standing up for justice?
3. How does God's presence in the furnace offer hope and assurance to Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego? What steps can we take to cultivate the kind of faith that enables us to stand firm in the face of opposition?
4. **Read Daniel 9:4-19.** Daniel doesn’t just pray for his individual sins. He offers a bold prayer of corporate confession and repentance for Israel. Do you think that we in the American church today struggle with the idea of corporate guilt and/or systemic injustice? How do you see this play out?
5. Is there a need for corporate confession and repentance in our communities or society as a whole? If so, what might that look like?
6. In verses 13-14, Daniel acknowledges that the people have not obeyed God's commands. How does he link repentance to the possibility of restoration and redemption?