



RESILIENT

Seeking Justice

Isaiah 1:12-17



Diversity Equity Inclusion



Review

Week 1: Introduction

Week 2: Explanation of DEI

Week 3: Assessment of DEI



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Conclusion: The desire to include and seek justice is understandable and commendable, but the principles associated with much of DEI ideology do not align with biblical truth and in the end will be harmful.



Review

Week 1: Introduction

Week 2: Explanation of DEI

Week 3: Assessment of DEI

Week 4: Application

How should we respond to DEI teaching?

What should we do instead?



Isaiah 1:12-17

¹² “When you come to appear before me,
who has required of you
this trampling of my courts?

¹³ Bring no more vain offerings;
incense is an abomination to me.

New moon and Sabbath and the calling of convocations—
I cannot endure iniquity and solemn assembly.

¹⁴ Your new moons and your appointed feasts
my soul hates;

they have become a burden to me;
I am weary of bearing them.



Isaiah 1:12-17

When you spread out your hands,
I will hide my eyes from you;
even though you make many prayers,
I will not listen; your hands are full of blood.
Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean;
remove the evil of your deeds from before my eyes;
cease to do evil,
learn to do good;
seek justice, correct oppression;
bring justice to the fatherless,
plead the widow's cause.



Kids Question Hint

Form a sentence from the **blue** words.



Seeking Justice

1. Confronting these ideas with the right spirit.
2. Confronting these ideas in your workplace, school, or other context.
3. Shaping the institutions of society.
4. Pursuing biblical justice, diversity and inclusion as the church.



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2 Timothy 2:24-26

And the Lord's servant must not be quarrelsome but kind to everyone, able to teach, patiently enduring evil, correcting his opponents with gentleness. **God** may perhaps grant them repentance leading to a knowledge of the truth, and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, after being captured by him to do his will.



2 Timothy 2:24-26

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1. Paul is instructing Timothy on how to confront real issues that have the potential to significantly harm the church.
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3. The goal was persuasion – that people would repent and turn to Christ.

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1. Paul is instructing Timothy on how to confront real issues that have the potential to significantly harm the church.
2. These opponents were not the enemies themselves, but the captives of the true enemy.
3. The goal was persuasion – that people would repent and turn to Christ.
4. The manner in which these people were to be addressed was important (kindness, patience, gentleness, etc.).



A Persuasive Manner

Proverbs 25:5 With patience a ruler may be persuaded, and a soft tongue will break a bone.



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Daniel 2:12-19 (page 738)



Daniel 2:12-19 (page 738)

1. Daniel replied with prudence and inquired about the matter.
2. He made a request to the king for time.
3. He called his faith-filled friends together and prayed.
4. God gave wisdom.
5. Daniel requested an audience with the king.



Esther 4:15-17 (page 413)



Esther 4:15-17 (page 413)

1. Esther asks for collective prayer.
2. She initiates a conversation with the king, even though it was risky.
3. She shrewdly exposes Haman's deception.



When Initiating Dialogue



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4. Be ready to present your case tactfully, clearly and persuasively.
5. Initiate a dialogue.



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3. **Shaping the institutions of society.**
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Shaping Societal Institutions

1. The church is to prioritize the straightforward preaching of the gospel (1 Corinthians 2:1-2).



1 Corinthians 2:1-2

And I, when I **came** to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified.



Shaping Societal Institutions

1. The church is to prioritize the straightforward preaching of the gospel (1 Corinthians 2:1-5).
2. The overall health of society is still very important (1 Timothy 2:1-4).



1 Timothy 2:1-4

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all people to be saved and **to** come to the knowledge of the truth.



Shaping Societal Institutions

1. The church is to prioritize the straightforward preaching of the gospel (1 Corinthians 2:1-5).
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3. Occasionally, the church will address some societal issue, while always aiming to maintain the priority of the gospel.



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2. The overall health of society is still very important (1 Timothy 2:1-4).
3. Occasionally, the church will address some societal issue, while always aiming to maintain the priority of the gospel.
4. The church will encourage and support those who are positioned and envisioned to more directly affect societal change.



Pray!!

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American Universities

- From 1976 to 2011 the number of students nearly doubled.
- Number of professors only increased by 76%.
- Number of administrators increased by 139%.
- Number of other professional employees (e.g. student affairs officers and mental health counselors) increased by 366%.



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God on Display



God on Display

1. Caring for the disadvantaged is a reflection of God's heart.



Psalm 10:16-18

The LORD is king forever and ever; the nations perish from his land. O LORD, you hear the desire of the afflicted; you will strengthen their heart; you will incline your ear to **do justice** to the fatherless and the oppressed, so that man who is of the earth may strike terror no more.



God on Display

1. Caring for the disadvantaged is a reflection of God's heart.
2. Caring for the disadvantaged has a persuasive effect.



1 Peter 2:12

Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation.



Matthew 5:16

In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.



Seeking Justice as the Church



Seeking Justice as the Church

1. Pursue radical hospitality.



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2. Create and support programs that meet tangible needs.



Seeking Justice as the Church

1. Pursue radical hospitality.
2. Create and support programs that meet tangible needs.
3. Cultivate a missionary spirit that enters into other cultures in order to fill those cultures with the grace of God.



Summary: Potential Applications

1. How can you more intentionally pray for these issues?
2. Should you initiate dialogue at your workplace, school, or other community sphere?
3. Is there a unique role for you to play in shaping political processes?
4. Is there a unique role for you to play in shaping academia?
5. How can you offer more tangible expressions of hospitality?
6. Is there a program that serves the marginalized that you could either create or support?
7. Is there a marginalized culture that you can enter into?



Kids Question



Kids Question

What is our sentence?



Kids Question

What is our sentence?

God came to do justice.



Matthew 26:26-29

Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, “Take, eat; this is my body.” And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, “Drink of it, all of you, for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you I will not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father’s kingdom.”