

# Harvest, part 2

## Psalm 82

Gary Haugan is a humanitarian lawyer in the US who has founded International Justice Mission to bring justice to the oppressed and exploited across the world. Unlike me he is at the coalface of God's work for justice. Here is a link to a talk he gave that you might want to watch together (or in your own time) just be warned it includes some adult themes. There are also some sermon questions below you can do either (or both if you have time).

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yALZPvT9w9Y> [or search within YouTube 'Unfamiliar Passions of God mycrossings']

### Questions on the video

1. Are you and Jesus passionate about the same things?
2. Where are the borders of your heart? How big is your world?  
me – immediate family – people I like – whole world
3. Injustice in the Bible is abuse of power to take from someone the good things God intended for them. What genuine sources of injustice do you encounter in your life?
4. What resources do you have to offer Jesus to work miracles with?
5. How can you show Jesus God is good?

### Questions on the sermon

1. Should Christians invest more time, effort and money in evangelism or justice? In your own life which has taken priority? How can you strengthen the other? [If you are struggling with the need for Christians to be agents of justice here are some other justice verses: Amos 5, Micah 6:8, Matthew 25:31-46, James 1:26-2:26]
2. Bono, the lead singer of U2, says "This is not about charity in the end, is it? It's about justice. And that's too bad. Because we're good at charity. We like to give, and we give a lot, even those who can't afford it. But justice is a higher standard ... Because there's no way we can look at what's happening in Africa and, if we're honest, conclude that deep down, we would let it happen anywhere else – if we really accepted that Africans are equal to us."  
Charity is giving to the needy and often it is a good thing (at its worst it can mean giving things we don't want and the poor don't need with the aim of making us feel better) justice is righting past wrongs, breaking down patterns that create poverty in the first place and empowering people to make a future for themselves. Do you think your outreach to others is directed towards justice or charity?
3. "To even know good you have to do something first! But then the very limitations and failures of your 'doing' will drive you back and deeper, into contemplation. And so the cycle of life and prayer begins. After a while you are never sure which is feeding which, or whether it is action or contemplation that comes first". Richard Rohr  
Which do you find easier: prayer or action? How can you strengthen the other?
4. Are there people you treat unjustly or injustices you have been turning a blind eye to? When you do stand up to injustice are we "fighting from our small and angry selves" or from our place centred in the love of God?

### Some helpful websites:

- <http://www.behindthebarcode.org.au> (Baptist world aid rate companies on the likely hood of slavery in their supply chains)
- Stop the Traffik Australia <http://stopthetraffik.com.au>
- Good on You (which is an ethical blog, and they also have an app you can download onto your phone that rates companies on how ethical they are for environmental issues and worker rights) <http://goodonyou.org.au>