

Justice campaign worship resources

Traidcraft is inviting churches to reflect and act to support the Justice campaign.

In addition to the prayers and reflection here, the following resources are also available from traidcraft.co.uk/campaign-resources



- **Justice campaign video** (church version) – show this short animated video to introduce the campaign and explain how it links to buying fair trade, and putting faith into action. Running time 2 minutes 30 seconds.
- **Justice campaign text & images to use** – high resolution images and text about the campaign, downloadable in Powerpoint to edit for presentations or articles.
- **Prayer and action cards** – available to order – get enough to hand out to members of your congregation. Each small card includes the Justice campaign prayer (below) and an action to sign and return to Traidcraft.

The Justice campaign prayer

Lord God
you create all people in your image
and you grieve to see this broken world.

We pray for those who are abused
or exploited in the scramble for profit.
May they have justice.

Forgive us our part
and give us the strength
to campaign for change. **Amen.**

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Prayer of repentance

God has blessed us, but still God's children go hungry.
Lord have mercy
Lord have mercy.

God has blessed us, but still the poor cry out for justice.
Christ have mercy
Christ have mercy.

God has blessed us, but still we see inequality and oppression in the earth.
Lord have mercy
Lord have mercy.

May almighty God, who sent his Son into the world to save sinners,
bring you his pardon and peace, now and forever.
Amen.

Taken from *Common Worship: Times and Seasons* (2006). © The Archbishops' Council 2006.
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Suggestions for open prayer

Visit traidcraft.co.uk/justicecampaign to find stories and images for the campaign to help bring your prayers to life.

Please pray for...

- People in the developing world who have suffered because of the decisions or actions of UK companies.
- People responsible for the decisions made by UK companies who deliberately or inadvertently cause such harm.
- Ourselves – for the decisions we take as consumers, shareholders, voters and campaigners.
- Governments – our own and those of other countries around the world.

Quotes and Bible verses

‘Do not deny justice to your poor people in their lawsuits.’ Exodus 23:6

‘Woe to you Pharisees, because you give God a tenth of your mint, rue and all other kinds of garden herbs, but you neglect justice and the love of God.’ Luke 11:42

‘To no one will we sell, to no one we will refuse or deny, right or justice.’ Magna Carta, 1215

Reflection on David, and the story of the little lamb: power and responsibility

2 Samuel 12: 1-9, 13a

David has exploited his power and standing as king to have a man killed. In this passage the prophet Nathan uses a story to challenge him. The story tells of another abuse of power, and an innocent victim. David is outraged – as we all are when we see exploitation – and Nathan gently points out the connection: ‘You are the man’.

Sadly, the exploitation of power still happens today. Some commercial companies are abusing the power they have over people in developing countries. Traidcraft’s Justice campaign is calling for these companies to be held to account, and for victims to get justice. Through this process, the power of the companies would be balanced by the power of governments and the judiciary.

But at the moment, this is not possible. So can we use our power, as campaigners and consumers, to make it happen?

For discussion or reflection:

- *When does power become exploitative, and how can we stop this happening in today’s world?*
- *What power do we have, and how do we – or should we – use it?*
- *How can we share our power with others – as consumers, campaigners or citizens?*
- *David’s response is repentance (verse 13) – what might repentance look like for companies, or for us?*