

## Let Justice Roll Down...

“This is Not Working!”

Isaiah 58:1-14 (NIV)



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### What is Biblical (or Social) Justice?

The Hebrew word for justice is “mishpat”. It occurs over 200 times in the Old Testament. Its most basic meaning is to treat people equitably.

Mishpat is used many times in connection with what is known as the quartet of the vulnerable: widows, the fatherless, foreigners, the poor.

Oppression, neglect, indifference and apathy towards vulnerable communities is cited by scripture as a violation of justice (mishpat).

### Why do we do what we do?

**Romans 12** <sup>1</sup>Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. <sup>2</sup> Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

### Are we making a difference?

**James 1** <sup>27</sup> Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

### Are you ready for a different approach?

**Matthew 5** <sup>16</sup> In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

### E-Check: Engaging Our Circle of Influence