

# DAY 1

**Amos 5:22-25**

**Luke 11:37-44**



## Starting Point

Christians in Indonesia recognize that in their land there are people who passionately try to practise their faith, but who oppress those of other beliefs. In the prophecy of Amos, God rejects the worship of those who neglect justice. In the Gospel of Luke, Jesus reminds us that the outward sign of true worship of God is acting justly. Christians can sometimes be very committed to prayer and worship, but less concerned for the poor and the marginalized. When, as Christians, we work together on justice issues we grow closer to one another and to God.

## Reflection

A: the table  
we sit,  
empty plates, but for a few crumbs.

Everyone's had their fill again,  
satiated,  
at least for now.

Turning on the taps  
we fill our bowls,  
in the hope that the stains  
will disappear.

The water cascades  
over cup  
and plate,  
cleansing it  
of any sign of human contact,  
as if there had never been a meal.

In our polite conversation  
and edgy discourse,  
we fool ourselves  
into thinking we are making  
a difference.

We faithfully gather,  
but are we just acting,  
waiting,  
for the others to speak up  
as we wash our hands?

## Let justice roll down like waters (Amos 5:24)



## Prayer

God of all,  
you have shown us the path  
of justice.  
You are the father of the orphan.  
You are the constant companion of  
the widow.  
You are the friend of the stranger.  
In each of these,  
may we meet you  
and recognize the wind of  
your Spirit,  
moving us toward the need  
for justice.  
In all that we do,  
may we know your grace and mercy  
and offer healing and justice in  
your name.

## Questions

- How would you describe justice?
- Where have you recognized justice in action?
- Can we have unity without justice?

## Go and Do

[see [www.ctbi.org.uk/goanddo](http://www.ctbi.org.uk/goanddo)]

'Charity is no substitute for justice withheld'.

Take time to reflect and remember campaign successes of the recent and distant past, e.g. the abolition of transatlantic slavery and the end of apartheid in South Africa. Visit Go and Do to read about recent successes in the campaign for tax justice.

Celebrate the successes and get together to discuss what action your community of churches could take to challenge injustice that is happening now. Visit Go and Do for some creative activism ideas.