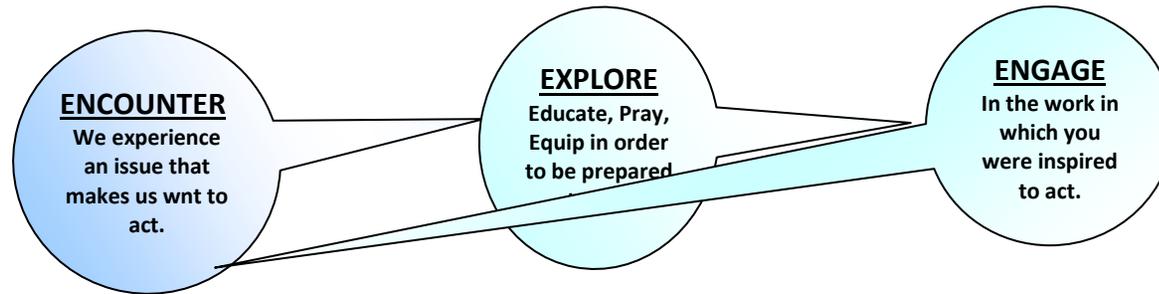


HOW CAN THE LOCAL CHURCH BE ENGAGED IN GLOBAL RELIEF WORK? WHAT DOES CHURCH MOBILIZATION FOR THIS WORK LOOK LIKE?

Jim Martin describes in his book, *The Just Church*, why justice and discipleship go together; what scripture tells us to do; and how a church engages in that work-- both locally and globally. He describes an important cycle:



- We may be tempted to jump into work quickly, but careful preparation is key to success.
- Once we are in this work, we need to return to the 'encounter' that first energized us.

We always think we do a list of things and wait for God to catch up to us when, in reality, God is ahead of us.

Where there is injustice and poverty God will be.

IJM recommends five basic actions/activities/behaviors that enable the local church to promote Justice....

BREAKOUT SESSION ON MODERN SLAVERY AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING: JOE FARRELL—INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE MISSION (2 of 4)

GROW THE MOVEMENT:

- **Talk to others; hold awareness nights (movies); advocate on local, state, and national levels. (IJM does advocacy training and a day of meeting on Capitol Hill with officials.)**

IJM is working toward a federal law, and working with senators to influence the State Department. The TIP office is trying to turn human trafficking from an office into a bureau. Doing so gives more power to the issue when it comes to policy making (people think it increases funding/costs but it does not – just changes the name). This might be the year this happens, even though most bureaus are dedicated to regions of the world and not to specific issues.

PRAYER:

- **April 17-18, 2015 is a scheduled *IJM Prayer* weekend in DC. Joe encourages our church to send a van of people to join in it.**

<https://www.ijm.org/gpg-2015>

This is an incredibly powerful event. Pastors share that it is the closest thing they can imagine to the power of prayer in the *Garden of Gethsemane*. One described feeling as if he was prying the hands of injustice off of a slave through prayer. It is a great place to personally learn more about prayer.

- **We can also sign up to be prayer partners with International Justice Mission.**

Prayer is a large part of what IJM does...twice a day. Between 8:30-9:00am they pray individually. Between 11:00-11:30 am, the whole office comes together to be still and in prayer. They believe strongly on the importance of this routine, and are encouraged by the large number of others who commit to pray with and for them. Joe admits this is not always convenient, but believes it is important to “...be still so you remember you have a soul.”



BREAKOUT SESSION ON MODERN SLAVERY AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING: JOE FARRELL—INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE MISSION (3 of 3)

GENEROSITY:

- **INCLUDE JUSTICE AS PART OF GLOBAL MISSION WORK.**

Traditionally, the church gives to Poverty and Disciple Growth. Both are important, but **injustice is often ignored.**

(<100 million in giving vs. billions). He suggests not “adding another thing” but looking around at what we are already doing.

Ask ourselves how justice is being addressed within our existing missions. Let Justice be the DNA of current missions.

(Watts? Men on a Mission? Guatemala? Jubilee Kitchen?)

Take opportunities to partner with IJM offices (like in Guatemala) through the *Partnership with a Field Office Program*.

(Use prayer, regular phone calls, financial aid, visits, and support letters for victims.)

THERE ARE MANY OPTIONS FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Joe shared the example that he and his wife sponsor, a ***Compassion International Child***. One would assume local governments can be counted on to provide order, but they can't. “If our sponsored child does not return to school, is sold into trafficking, or is raped—our money is worthless.” Never the less—they will continue to support her.

WITHOUT JUSTICE, POVERTY RELIEF IS NOT EFFECTIVE

Be creative. Think of ways to educate while you raise money. Plan ***Runs for Justice*** (one church shared the story of a rescued slave in small bits on signs throughout the race that their art team designed); fair trade; bake sales; and concerts,. Holiday giving offers many opportunities. It costs \$4500 to rescue a slave from investigation to rescue to aftercare. **Look up other meaningful amounts in the holiday gift guide from IJM online.**

THE GREAT MAJORITY OF IJM'S WORK IS THROUGH INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS.



BREAKOUT SESSION ON MODERN SLAVERY AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING: JOE FARRELL—INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE MISSION (4 of 4)

GOD'S SCEPTER IS JUSTICE -- IT IS PART OF WHO GOD IS.

If God is loving and merciful and compassionate and we are to be disciples in God's image, then we must be the same. We must look at our communities and see if justice is being served.

WHAT IS THE CHURCH DOING TO HELP AND SUPPORT DISCIPLES THAT ALREADY UNDERSTAND JUSTICE IS PART OF GOD'S PLAN?

- How common is domestic violence? Why are there never sermons about this? We hear more from the NFL than our churches.
- As a church, our mission is to support and encourage an environment where God has the opportunity to grow Justice in God's people from Infancy through adulthood.
 - Consider using the *Children's Ministry and Teen Curriculum on Justice* that is being released this summer.
 - Explore Gary Haugen's books:
 - ***The Locust Effect***; Why the End of Poverty Requires the End of Violence; ***Terrify No More***; Young Girl's Held Captive are Rescued; ***Good News About Injustice***; Witness of Courage in a Hurting World: ***Just Courage***: God's Great Expectations for the Restless Christian.
 - Use the DVD series for small groups from ***International Justice Mission/Canada***.

PUT JUSTICE ON THE CALENDAR

- Farrell recommends scheduling something that addresses justice, quarterly.
- Identify a senior leader (pastor) and a team devoted to Justice issues to work together to make these steps work,
- Use the ***Community Justice Assessment*** (pdf download) offered by **IJM** to help assess issues in your community. The process of prayer and discernment, recognizing issues, and action takes a good 6-12 months to properly prepare.

End of Joe Farrell/IJM Session