



*He has told you, O man, what is good;
and what does the Lord require of you
but to do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God?*

Micah 6:2

The people of Israel who Micah prophesied to had wandered from God, worshipping false gods and oppressing others. But through Micah, God reminds them that what He desires of us is really quite simple: to love Him and love our neighbour, fighting for justice for those who need it. This month our prayers are inspired by our Harvest Appeal theme, "Harvesting Justice". As our partners fight for justice for the oppressed, we pray the Lord would grant justice and that those in need would experience His love through it.

PAKISTAN - WVTC

The Womens Vocational Training Centres operate in the northernmost area of Pakistan, where women experience discrimination. Its vision is to develop and empower women through practical skills by offering tailoring, literacy and business lessons, education and counselling regarding the value of women, and sharing the Good News of Jesus. Having seen the ministry thrive, our partners are opening new centres in unreached areas to see more women transformed.



- Often women in Gilgit are stopped from gaining education and training, causing them to be dependent on the men in their society. They are left unempowered and lacking in self-worth, reinforcing the misconception that they are lesser than men. Father, thank You that You have placed it on the hearts of our partners to challenge this injustice by providing opportunities for women to train and gain skills so they can earn an independent living. May many more women be equipped and empowered through this training, we pray.
- Lord, we pray for the women of the Gujor community in Pakistan. Thank You that You have given each of them unique gifts and talents. However, so often these go unrecognised because of a cultural belief that women are inferior to men. We pray, Lord, that You would overcome this injustice and help both men and women to recognise the strengths and talents of the women in their community.

ECUADOR - Craft Aid International

Our partners have established a social enterprise for persons with disabilities in Santo Domingo, Ecuador, training them in craft-making and creating employment opportunities. They seek to reform attitudes to persons with disabilities and encourage other employment opportunities for them, bringing hope, dignity and transformation in the lives of the trainees, their families and their community.



- Many people with disabilities are assumed to be incapable of doing what able-bodied people can do, but this is certainly not always the case. Thank You, Lord, that through the work of our partners this view is being dispelled in Ecuador, as those with disabilities are being given the opportunity to learn craft-making and earn an income. Thank You for the graduation ceremonies held for trainees who complete the course to celebrate their hard work. Would You bless this ministry and may unjust, false assumptions about those with disabilities continue to be dispelled, we pray.
- Lord God, we give thanks for the amazing journey that Ramon has been on. Having lost mobility from the waist down following a motorbike accident 16 years ago, his life was transformed from hopelessness to hope through training with our partners. Following his success, he has recently been employed by our partners as an assistant paper-making trainer and driver! We praise You, Lord, for this incredible transformation. May his story be an inspiration for all who suffer as he did, showing them that they too can escape the stigma of disability and live full, dignified lives.

KENYA - Glad's House

Glad's House works with over 3,000 street children in Mombasa, Kenya who are imprisoned in Shimo Le Tewa Annex adult prison and Likoni Juvenile Remand Home, often for simply being homeless. While in prison, our partners - the only NGO working in these institutions - seek to keep the children and young people safe and ensure their legal rights and dignity are upheld while they try to secure their release.



- In Mombasa, Kenya, street children have been described by authorities as "a security menace" whose presence threatens tourism. Those rounding up street children boast in cleaning the streets by removing the "rubbish". Lord God, these children are precious and beautiful in Your sight, not "rubbish". Thank You that through our partners, You are helping the children to see this and are challenging the damaging views held about street children. Would You continue to bless this ministry. May these vulnerable children receive the protection and justice they deserve, we pray.
- Street children often face violence, whether from police, the public or even their friends, which causes emotional damage too. One child shares, "The hardest thing for us on the streets is arrests. The police always arrest us on false issues. They take us to the police station and then to jail. This encourages us to be thieves and criminals." Lord, we pray that You would protect these children. Would You continue to use our partners to intervene and prevent children from adopting a criminal lifestyle because of the way they have been treated. May they be given hope for their futures instead, we pray.

UGANDA - Youth Action Uganda

Following 30 years of civil war, our partners Youth Action Uganda seek to end a culture of violence. They do this by helping displaced people to farm effectively, moving them from subsistence to modern farming. This enables them to use their income to grow different crops and, by donating some of their groundnut crop back to the project, to expand the scheme to others.



Nutrition & Wash programme: Alongside supporting displaced farmers with their crops, our partners support those directly affected by HIV/AIDS, as well as providing locals with hygiene and sanitation skills to prevent the spreading of sickness and disease.

- Lord Jesus, thank You for the Tithe to Thrive ministry led by our partners and for all that the farmers are learning through it. Thank You for using this scheme to provide the farmers not only with food to eat but with money to pay for education and other needs. We pray You would continue to use this ministry to help farmers develop their skills, become self-sufficient and understand the benefit of community and unity in their work rather than working alone. May fear not stop them from joining the scheme - would You give them confidence by the testimonies of others, we pray.
- Lord, we thank You that the farmers are being given the opportunity to hear Your Gospel through the connection between our partners and the local Church. Thank You for the new evangelical church our partners have built in Napak. We pray that as they grow in their practical gifts and skills, they would also grow in faith, love and understanding of Jesus Christ. May they come to know You as the God of justice who is on their side and who will never fail them.

Rope Days

- Lord God, we thank You for giving Samuel the chance to visit the congregation at St Mary's Princes Risborough on 6 October. As he shares his passion and heart for the work You have given him to do, we pray that the people in turn would be inspired about all You are doing to help farmers in Uganda and that they would share the exciting news with others.



- Lord, thank You for the visit Samuel is making to the Honeycomb group on 9 October. We pray for a blessed time together, for relationships to be built and strengthened and for all to be mutually encouraged and strengthened in faith by each other.

- Thank You, Lord Jesus, for the opportunity Samuel has to visit Billericay Baptist Church on 13 October. We pray, Holy Spirit, that You would fill him, anoint him and give him Your words to speak. May each person listening hear the message You want to say to them today.

Growing as Disciples

- *Harvesting Justice: Love Your Neighbour.* Read Leviticus 19:9-18. When God gave Israel the Law, He made it clear that His heart is for justice. He ensured that the lives and rights of everyone in society, including the poor and needy, would be protected. In what ways do we see the kind of justice described here being carried out in our lives and the world around us, and in what ways is it being overlooked? Lift to the Lord those situations He brings to your mind, asking for Him to turn hearts towards justice and to see justice carried out.



- *Harvesting Justice: Following in the Footsteps of our Father.* Read Leviticus 20:22-26; Matthew 5:43-48. The kind of behaviour we are called to demonstrate reflects that of our Father. He is good and loving, a God of justice, who has created us in His own image and is conforming us to the image of His Son (Rom. 8:29). We are therefore called to reflect Him in all we think, say and do, including fighting for justice. In what ways can we work for justice for those in need, whether in our families, communities, nation, or across the world? Ask the Lord what He would have you do and take action as the Spirit leads you.

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If you would like to discuss anything you've read in this prayer letter, or would like to ask about any of our work, please do not hesitate to get in touch!

