



## Working for Justice

### About this Faith Practice

Working for justice is putting things right. It is building right relationships with God, each other, and all of God's creation. To work for justice we imagine God's Shalom and stay focused on the world as God intends it to be. Justice is a universal value that, within the biblical story, is required of people of faith. Following Jesus' lead, we seek wholeness and reconciliation through both systemic and individual change. Working for justice is a way of life that is different from doing charity. Charity is a compassionate response to a need; justice works to repair the root cause of need. Justice is not a one way street; it requires active partners. It heals both the oppressed and the oppressor. Come, work for justice!

### Let's Begin...

Now that you've downloaded the files for your faith practice and age group or setting, you can get started planning one or multiple sessions:

**1 Open the .pdf file for your age group or setting. Choose an Exploration, the approach you think will help your group to best experience the faith practice. Choose any one of the following Explorations to use for one session:**



**Discovery**



**Scripture**



**Discipleship**



**Christian Tradition**



**Context and Mission**



**Future and Vision**

**Note:** If you're planning multiple sessions, you can follow the order suggested above or feel free to use any order that fits the needs of your group. Some groups may choose to start with Scripture and then see where that leads them. Others may be more ready to act in their community and might want to start with Context and Mission.

**2 Locate the Exploration you've chosen**

**3 Look through all 9 activities and select the ones you would like to do with your group.**

- If you're planning a 30–45 minute session, choose 3 activities.
- It is best to select at least one activity from Exploring and Engaging, at least one from Discerning and Deciding, and at least one from Sending and Serving.
- For 45 minutes to 1 hour, choose 4 or 5 activities.
- For a 1½ to 2-hour session, you can use all 9 activities.

**Tip:** Look for this symbol  to find activities designed for Easy Preparation (able to be done with minimal preparation using supplies normally found at the church).

**4** Make copies of any handouts () related to your activities. Order posters () if using art (see “Ordering Posters,” below).

## Use of Art, Music, and Scripture in Faith Practices

Faith Practices activities include many opportunities to grow in faith through the use of scripture, music, and art.

### Ordering Posters

If you choose activities that use an art image, you or your church will need to purchase posters of the art by clicking on the link provided in the activity. If you wish to use art, you will need to plan ahead, since it takes 1 to 2 weeks for the posters to arrive after you place your order.

### Art

Six posters are used with the faith practice Working for Justice and may be ordered by clicking on the links provided.

#### From Imaging the Word Poster Sets

“Embrace of Peace” by George Tooker

[https://secure3.convio.net/ucc/site/Ecommerce/1801449515?VIEW\\_PRODUCT=true&product\\_id=15626&store\\_id=1401](https://secure3.convio.net/ucc/site/Ecommerce/1801449515?VIEW_PRODUCT=true&product_id=15626&store_id=1401)

About George Tooker the painter of Embrace of Peace II, a justice and spiritual minded painter: [http://webcache.googleusercontent.com/search?q=cache:r8PsRUoPBXAJ:www.americamagazine.org/content/article.cfm%3Farticle\\_id%3D11276+Embrace+of+Peace+II+who+or+what+is+the+painting+about&cd=2&hl=en&ct=clnk&gl=us](http://webcache.googleusercontent.com/search?q=cache:r8PsRUoPBXAJ:www.americamagazine.org/content/article.cfm%3Farticle_id%3D11276+Embrace+of+Peace+II+who+or+what+is+the+painting+about&cd=2&hl=en&ct=clnk&gl=us)

“The Sower” by Vincent Van Gogh

[https://secure3.convio.net/ucc/site/Ecommerce/1801449515?VIEW\\_PRODUCT=true&product\\_id=15625&store\\_id=1401](https://secure3.convio.net/ucc/site/Ecommerce/1801449515?VIEW_PRODUCT=true&product_id=15625&store_id=1401)

“Shotgun Third Ward” by John Biggers

[https://secure3.convio.net/ucc/site/Ecommerce/1801449515?VIEW\\_PRODUCT=true&product\\_id=17101&store\\_id=1401](https://secure3.convio.net/ucc/site/Ecommerce/1801449515?VIEW_PRODUCT=true&product_id=17101&store_id=1401)

About John Biggers, painter of Shotgun Third Ward: [http://americanart.si.edu/search/artist\\_bio.cfm?ID=414](http://americanart.si.edu/search/artist_bio.cfm?ID=414) It is set in Houston in the historic Third Ward.

#### From Art.com

“Tar Beach II” by Faith Ringgold

<http://tinyurl.com/FPArt16>

Visit the artist’s website, for a wealth of information [www.faithringgold.com](http://www.faithringgold.com)  
Check out Ringgold’s picture/storybook, a companion piece, Tar Beach.

“Vendedora de Piñas” by Diego Rivera

<http://tinyurl.com/FPArt17>

“Kopf” by Joan Miro

<http://tinyurl.com/FPArt18>

## Working for Justice

### Music

Three music selections are used with Praying and Making Ritual. We have selected music which is easily found in many hymnals. A web link is provided to give more information about each music selection.

“Dream God’s Dream” by Bryan Sirchio

YouTube Video: <http://tinyurl.com/FPSong19>

Words: <http://tinyurl.com/FPSong19a>

“Guide My Feet” African-American traditional, Tune: Guide My Feet

YouTube Video: <http://tinyurl.com/FPSong20>

Words and Music: <http://www.hymnsite.com/fws/hymn.cgi?2208>

“Singing for Our Lives” by Holly Near

Words on Holly Near Web Site: <http://tinyurl.com/FPSong21a>

YouTube Video: <http://tinyurl.com/FPSong21b>

### Scripture

Twelve Bible passages are used with Working for Justice, two with each Exploration.

Discovery	Joshua 4:1-7, 19-24	Psalms 23
Scripture	Luke 11:1-13	1 Chronicles 29:10-18
Discipleship	Deuteronomy 26:1-11	1 Thessalonians 5:16-24
Christian Tradition	Matthew 6:7-15	1 Corinthians 11:17-26
Context and Mission	Joel 2:1-2, 12-17	Philippians 1:3-4
Future and Vision	2 Samuel 7:18-29	Philemon 1:1-9

## Writing Team for Working for Justice

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