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Justice rising

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# Justice

Are you guys lawyers? No not lawyers, they are legit, but we look at Martin Luther King Junior.

*“Justice at it’s best is love correcting anything that stands against love.”* -Martin Luther King Junior

Everybody is aching for love. You don't have to be American to be influenced by what is happening with the shootings, conflicts, refugee crisis. Everybody is saying we don’t really want you. Popular things in the media, what if we dig deeper?

# Kongo

Central Africa, Kongo - called the heart of darkness, 5.4 million people killed in conflict. Syria 400.000 roughly died, in Kongo so many more. Rape capital of the world, 48 women raped every hour. Not just violated, but so violently raped where they die from their injuries. Only half of the population in the Eastern part are making it to school. This is what is happening, when we say let’s bring heaven to earth we can’t look at the church, but have to look at the earth.

**Bring Kingdom? We have to go!**

During the hight of the conflict trucks used to come by with bodies, three times a day they would loop and pile up the bodies take them out of the city.

# How do we change the world?

As christians I want us to practically dig in: “*what does it mean to bring Heaven to earth?”* How do we actually stand up for rights? For the oppressed? Crisis? How do we actually bring change?

Some people would say, you be you, I am called to the West, another place. I hear you, but we get to look to the Bible as our road map, Jesus is beautiful in if you want to really love me well, l what you do to the least of these you do to me. Go sit in a prison, warlord, pregnant teenager. Poor and hurting, you love them well, you love me well.

Selfies to change the world, short term missions trips, she believes in them, but sometimes we look at them wrong, change the world go for 2 weeks. Could you imagine 2 weeks, saw what was happening here, going to bring change, I leave next Tuesday and might never come back. More partnership, how change the world? Maybe a soup kitchen, selfie.

Prayer rooms, maybe you're called to sit in there. Asking this question from a really young age, one of the people that would watch world vision commercials and cry. 10 years old God spoke to her very clear about Kongo, worst war since WW2.

God said go to the centre of Africa, she was always geared towards let’s go to war zones, dreaming about how to bring change. Maybe children homes? Cuddle babies? 18 she went off to the mission field, going between war zones. Lives in Southern Sudan in a mud hut, Northern Uganda in the war. Child brides of Koni, Jordan, North Korea. Things head on, story after story of injustice.

She started a medical clinic, didn't really work for her.

**How do we bring heaven to earth to actually see a shift and change the world?**

# Soki

They met a woman, Soki (25) widowed 3 children, Beni, DRCongo. September a hundred people killed in one go, just slashing them with machetes. She didn't have much life in their eyes at the beginning. Trying to be really engaged, needs and necessment thing talking with them hearing their stories, can you tell us a piece of your story? Had 2 kids and pregnant at the time. Husband and her lived in the village, knew that war was nearby, but they were farmers and their life depended upon their food. Rebels might come soon, either waited it out and lived, moved out and died.

Take the babes and hide in the grass, I will answer the door and come to you afterwards. She goes and hides in the grass. She hears everything, harass her husband, tie them up and every single blow at her husband. So traumatised, what is next? Had to get out of there, 2 children 4 hours of walking, then she encountered a motor cycle and was in the city. How do I recover from this? What do I do for food? Question: How often do you eat? She answered I have nothing, house farm everything out there, what she does is waiting outside a corn mill, corn kernels fly off and after a week she can sell them bring them in get a dollar. With that dollar she buys food for her family.

# Vision

This is whats happening in the earth, 300 million people living in conflict, could it be that Christians are supposed to be the one with the answers? Can’t do a band-aid have to have the answers to this. Not just the victim I want us to go after. All of her senses were engaged. Fear in the faces, taste blood in her mouth, hit in the head. Where am I? With a group of people being buried alive, know it is a vision, but felt so real. Right when she felt like she couldn't take it anymore she said Jesus, He swooped in and put him with the soldiers. With the people that were burying the people alive. Change the situation Jesus.

God walked up to them, take one of the soldiers with such a love in His eyes, intimate moment where they are talking and love comes out. Feeling awkward watching this. Kassandra, I hate what they do, but I love who they are.

She said God please send me, He had a smile and said okay I will send you. Going between war zones, getting tired. Couldn't do this, can't put another band-aid upon someone. Band-aids don’t fix bullet holes, what is his strategy? Education. What if you build schools that are not just normal schools, but ones that have a ripple effect into society, hit health, trauma, politics. What if we had these schools being catalysts of change? She wasn't like yeah that’s awesome! Because of her being an extravert, being silent didn't work for her.

Schools in war zones, statistically if you break it down, they bring the greatest effect into it. Less likely to be abducted into army, to get everyone pregnant. If you bring a young girl into education she is 6x less likely to be a child bride. Rape goes down, in Kongo we need education!

**United Nations have a statistic that if you bring secondary enrolment you can cut the chances of war in half!**

Leading cause of death for children under five is diarrhoea in places like that. You educate them and the statistics immediately fall. Possible that education is the missing link in transforming culture?

# Darkest places

Started building schools within 6 months. Educating kids, right now 5 schools, 1200 students. Have a video to show you. What the hell is wrong with this world! How can we be so different, how can we be slaves of comfort instead of servants of God. Bringing life, light and glory into the darkest of places. We need to reach the lost close by at home, but there is so many worse things that need to be handled.

Rebel soldiers not hard to find, by making yourself available, have an open heart you're good. Many times people will knock at the door, big person with a lot of child soldiers, what are you doing today? what have we done wrong or said? The soldier just wants food, suddenly you share your table to talk about life together.

Can you imagine going in like: what if the soldier rapes me? I am going to be smart, wise, but also full of love.

So many things set up for one moment, he encountered Jesus that day; one because they just went, but also because they were abiding in Christ. You are going to drop to your knees, receive clean hands and a pure heart. Put yourself in crazy situations, places where if God doesn't show up you are in big trouble. Fish literally jumping into the boat, way Jesus fishes is so different than we do. Right spot, place, bait, selfie. Jesus says no; just follow my strategy, I will tell you what to do!

Okay to be tired, as long as Jesus refreshes you. At that point of being so tired Jesus came:

Isaiah 59:8-9 (ESV)

The way of peace they do not know,

and there is no justice in their paths;

they have made their roads crooked;

no one who treads on them knows peace.

Therefore justice is far from us,

and righteousness does not overtake us;

we hope for light, and behold, darkness,

and for brightness, but we walk in gloom.

Isaiah 59:14-16 (ESV) Justice is turned back,

and righteousness stands far away;

for truth has stumbled in the public squares,

and uprightness cannot enter.

Truth is lacking,

and he who departs from evil makes himself a prey.

The Lord saw it, and it displeased him

that there was no justice.

He saw that there was no man,

and wondered that there was no one to intercede;

then his own arm brought him salvation,

and his righteousness upheld him.

# The fulness of his goodness

She was reading this and said: God I don't want you to say that about me, my generation, this church, state, group of people. Where is the generation that stands up and says: “I will go” Jesus was a man of suffering, He sees everything, He is a good God! Not just because we live in middle class America, but because He was there when Soki’s husband was being chopped up. Want to see the fulness of His goodness? Sit with the poor and get your hands dirty!

Some boys get a wooden gun, go look tough it will scare the enemy. So wrong and injust, the eyes of the Lord literally go through and fro; “who will go for me?” You might say I am called to the church, but there has to be something that still costs us for the poor. Bible, Jesus! When we look apart from that to the world, the world is so hungry and desperate with the shootings and the refugee crisis. Article from the New York Times; History repeats itself, holocaust, jews trying to come to America, jews said: there might be nazis among you, terrorism amongst them. Who is Anne Frank today? She is a Syrian girl, how are we going to respond. We look back and say, why didn't you invite the jews? Didn't want to be uncomfortable, take the risk!

Nikolas Chrusoft? Look at history and the future could it be that Christians should be leading the charge? Why are we sitting on our hands? Not as if wards just started, they have been going on for a long time. What is our role, what are we supposed to do? In the war zone, packing up really fast, nervous laughter. Does America not have a lot of missionaries? Why are you the only one we see around here? Please when you go back to your country ask for more missionaries. Jungles of Congo after a rebel raid, who will go?

Justice isn't always sexy, doesn't always work the way we think. When God says who will go for me? I don't want Him to look and say I don't have anyone, what do I do? Don’t know what my piece is, what can I do? We don't always know.

Jesus give us strategy! New shooting, people group, village, election. Don’t care who you voted for, all have to realise that our country is hurting bad right now. What is our response? How can we love until it hurts?

God what do I do? if you don't know what your piece is; feel free to join ours! Brings such foundational change. Ripple effect, transforms lives. Stop the cycle of war. In Congo right now, finding the darkest and most hurt regions. Join our cause, whether that means to giving something, find a way to sow into an education project. Or go! Missions trips are awesome! Make it part of your lifestyle. Get uncomfortable!

# God sees differently

God sees differently, first time debating whether she should go into dark areas. Hadn't even met her husband yet, in the rebel held area they went into they would capture you, chop off your nose, lips and ears, that really hurt her. She would never find a husband, most of them she locks eyes with Jesus and is not afraid. Courageously goes into it. This time she didn't feel full peace.

If this is you God, so much is on the line. I need confirmation, in that moment she had this vision where she saw a war zone with bombs going off and AK-47’s. Why am I here? Don’t see anyone except this little boy on the road, drawn to this child. touched his soldier and he turns around and it was Jesus. Okay God what are you saying? I am here in the war zones, will you come find me?

Beautiful intimate invitation; will you come? Will you see what My goodness really looks like in these moments? It gets amplified in those moments, hard to describe Gods goodness to Soki. You have to really know it.