

Exposing Enemies Within the Church: A 7-Session Bible Study Series
Session 6: Social Justice: A Counterfeit Gospel: Part 1

Note: This one-page teaching plan is a summary; a leader's preparation should include studying all the material provided.

Bringing the session into focus: The social justice “gospel” is a forgery of the biblical gospel for a variety of reasons. This is especially evident when two elements of the social justice narrative — oppression and moral authority — are highlighted. They reveal core and irreconcilable differences between the “gospel” of the social justice movement and the gospel of Christ. You can access special resources for this Bible study session at <https://www.discoverbedrocktruth.org/00s6-resources-ewtcbs/>.

1. Ask the members of your group what they believe to be Satan's most effective tool. While many Christian leaders say it is division, it is not. It is deception. From the beginning, even in the Garden of Eden (see Gen. 3:1-7), Satan has always sought to deceive (see also John 8:43-45, where Jesus is talking).
2. Play the audio clip of Greg Koukl's explaining the purpose of Jesus' ministry. If desired, ask volunteers to look up the passages Mr. Koukl mentions (Luke 19:10; Luke 5:32; Matt. 20:28) and discuss them briefly. Emphasize the point Mr. Koukl makes — that these were Jesus' own statements about *His* ministry.
3. Emphasize that if Satan can get people to believe a lie about Jesus' mission, then he easily can create a false gospel around that lie.
4. Using the information provided, talk about forgeries — how they represent the false gospels that Satan creates and promotes. Satan is an expert forger. In fact, he's an expert's expert.
5. Explain that Christians are naïve to assume that merely preaching the true gospel and winning people to Christ are sufficient to combat the false gospels that Satan spreads. Why is this the case? Use the three reasons provided in the expanded teaching plan to answer this question. When discussing the **first reason**, use Matthew 28:18-20 and talk about the differences between a convert and a disciple. In discussing the **second reason**, use **Item 6.1** and emphasize that Christianity is about far more than saving souls (as important as evangelism is.) Also use the quote from Rev. Cary Gordon that begins “It is a grievous thing...” to further emphasize this point. On the **third point**, stress that people don't need simply to know the true gospel, but also *differences* between the true gospel and false gospels. We see this principle at work in Paul's letter to the Galatians.
6. Explore elements of the true gospel by examining the passages in **Item 6.2** and using the suggestions provided in the expanded teaching plan.
7. Explore additional passages under the section titled “Digging Deeper.” Review the elements of the gospel that your group has uncovered.
8. Using the audio clip from the Colson Center video hosted by Joseph Backholm and the material provided in the expanded teaching plan, discuss two elements of the social justice “gospel” that make it an obvious forgery. Without these, the social justice “gospel” falls apart. The two elements are: 1) **being oppressed** and 2) **having moral authority because of one's status as a victim**.
9. First, explore the theme of **being oppressed**. Divide your group into three smaller groups. Use **Item 6.3** (three pages) to give assignments to each group. Allow time for groups to complete their assignments and share reports of their findings.
10. Make the clarification highlighted in the section under the heading “What About Jesus' Mission?”
11. Using John 10:11-18,30; John 12:44-50; and John 14:7-11, talk about the **moral authority** that naturally belongs to Jesus. Also cite God's identifying Himself before giving the Ten Commandments in Exodus 20 and Deuteronomy 5. Further, use Jesus' words in Matthew 28:18-20. These Scripture references and related teaching ideas are in the expanded teaching plan.
12. **Summarize** how this session has exposed the social justice gospel as fraudulent: The study has shown that while the **social justice narrative** claims that those it says are “oppressed” have moral authority because they have been and are “oppressed,” the **authentic gospel** says only Jesus has been oppressed, and all people are His oppressors. Further, the true gospel says only Jesus has ultimate moral authority.
13. Remind your participants to engage with the debriefing material for this session this coming week.