



The Christian Methodist Episcopal Church

Department of Christian Education

MAKING DISCIPLES through "events that FORM and TRANSFORM"



Sunday School Lessons

Unit One

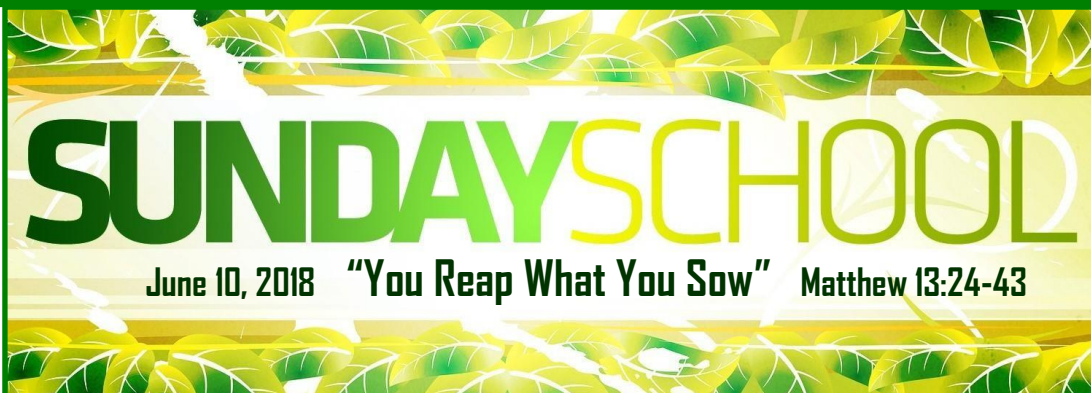
"God Is Just and Merciful"

June 2018

The study this quarter focuses on justice as presented in the New Testament. Justice is portrayed as a primary characteristic of God's nature. Human beings are called to emulate God's justice toward one another.

Unit I, "God Is Just and Merciful," has four lessons that remind us that human interpretations of the Law must not conflict with mercy and justice as acted out in our daily lives. The lessons from Matthew look at conflicts between Jesus and the Pharisees on questions of mercy and justice. The lesson from Luke looks at how God dispenses justice and mercy.

Dr. Carmichael Crutchfield
General Secretary



People want to experience living in a world filled with justice. Where can we find justice? Jesus' parables describe the kingdom of heaven, where God's justice is merciful, pervasive, and certain.

Goal for the Learners

- ✓ To explore the vision of justice presented in Jesus' parables of the wheat and the weeds, the mustard seed, and the leaven.
- ✓ To aspire to experience greater depths of God's redemptive justice.
- ✓ To commit to embody the values of divine justice these parables express.

Lesson Challenges for the Week

- "How is Jesus' call for justice seen in the parables of the wheat and the weeds, the mustard seed, and the leaven? What demands does this call put on us?"
- Think of some non-agrarian word pictures that might speak with greater relevance to an urban culture about the kind of influence Jesus was talking about in the wheat and the weeds and the mustard seed parables.
- Compare and contrast the use of yeast as a metaphor for negative influence with its use here as a positive influence. What lessons can be learned from this difference?

We are providing these notes from the Committee on Uniform Series that prepares associated Sunday School lesson outlines long in advance of their usage. Included in this Guide are thoughts that are reflected in the Lesson Development Guide for writers of Sunday school lessons and the recommended commentary of the Department of Christian Education, The New International Lesson Annual published by Abingdon Press Nashville, Tennessee.

Send an email to: sundayschool@thecmechurchced.org to receive this guide electronically each week.

