



GLOBAL INJUSTICE

Here is a basic idea that can be developed into a skit. It highlights the unjust distribution of physical resources globally and the injustice which means that some of us have numerous avenues through which they can learn of Jesus, while one third of the world's people can go from life to death and never have the opportunity to meet him.

Participants: two individuals or two groups of people.

Scene 1:

One person or group reflects on what might be on for dinner tonight for their Australian

	Total World Pop' n 5.8 Billion+	% of Christian Workers
World A (Unreached People Groups – most of whom go from birth to death without hearing the gospel due to cultural, linguistic and other barriers)	18.7 %	Less than 1 %
World B (Non-Christians who can benefit from Christian witness)	47.4 %	3 %
World C (People who claim to be Christian)	33.9 %	97%

Source: David Barrett, International Bulletin of Missionary Research, Jan 1997

Aim: To highlight the reality of the lack of Christian workers serving people who have no opportunity to hear of Jesus in meaningful ways.

Time: 5-10 minutes, followed by discussion and input from passages such as Acts 1:8 and Matthew 28:18-20.



Items: A good size bag of chocolates, sweets or other small items to distribute.

What to do: Break up the audience into three categories, of:

World A (approx 20%)

World B (approx 50%)

World C (approx 30%)

Tell them who they represent. Have group A stand on their seats, B just stand and C remain seated. Get them to say hello to each other. Then distribute 100 sweets/items. Give 97 to group C, 3 to group B, and give a wrapper or a piece of one of the items (ie. the leftovers) to Group A.


Another option is to use only 10 people, standing in a line, and give 97 items to 2 of them (World C), 3 items among 5 of them (World B) and a wrapper or part of an item to the last two (World A).

Yet another option, which takes longer but which has a really significant impact, is to serve a meal in which 97% of the food goes to 30% of the people, 3% goes to 50% of the people, and just a few scraps to 20% of the people.

Reflection: Ask Group A how they feel about group C's domination of the resources. Ask how Groups B and C felt also.

Input: Acts 1:8 sets a pattern for the extension of mission in the home base (Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria) but then moving out to other cultures or people groups (ends of the earth).

The church is called to mission among people:

- of the same culture (Jerusalem), e.g. The local church congregation and its suburb/town
 - of different subcultures (Judea), e.g. maybe people living in boarding houses, homeless people, a super-wealthy group in the suburb, a local school, a group living in Department of Housing accommodation
 - from other cultures (Samaria), e.g. another ethnic or religious group within the town, or within Australia, such as Indigenous people of Australia, Vietnamese people, Muslim people, and so on.
 - in other cultures (ends of the earth), e.g. unreached groups such as the Bengali people of Bangladesh, the ethnic Thai people of Thailand, a Muslim group in Indonesia.
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In each category, there needs to be prayerful, wholehearted, long-term and strategic planning of how, with God's enabling, we will minister to these people. For example, if our church's commitment is to the Bengali people of Bangladesh, and a person or group from an agency wants support for work in Iceland, very careful consideration would need to be given as to whether that is part of our church's strategic goals for mission. It is well worth drawing up a set of criteria in relation to which people and ministries will be supported by the church, to ensure that the resources we allocate are used effectively and in line with God's call on us.

Challenge: With such an abundance of resources allocated to World C (ie, Christians), churches and individuals need to increase the commitment to World B (people in countries like Australia who have access to the gospel but have not embraced it), and, in particular World A (people who, unless we make the effort, will die without ever knowing Jesus).

Many World A people groups are also among the most disadvantaged in the world in terms of physical and social resources. They, like us, are people for whom Jesus died! At least a tithe of time and finances needs to be allocated to mobilising people, especially young adults, to serving these people.

