



## **Carol Kingston-Smith –**

# **Pursuing Justice, Advocacy & Reconciliation**

### **Discussion Guide**

This resource is designed to help your small group or college class discussion. It's shaped to inspire you to consider new ways to understand the issues discussed in this video. You don't need to answer all the questions. Please allow time for discussion and response.

## **Materials**

1. Person Interviewed: Carol Kingston-Smith
2. Theme of Video: Pursuing Justice, Advocacy & Reconciliation

## **Preliminary discussion**

Consider the questions suggested below to start the conversation for your small group or college class. They'll consolidate the content of the video, after you've viewed it.

1. What were the major themes in this video?
2. How do those themes relate to your life and context?
3. Discuss the difficulties of the content. What was difficult to understand? Was there anything you would like to clarify with the group?
4. Theological method: How is the interviewee's theology and outlook informed and shaped by their practical ministry and context? What approaches do they take in understanding God in the context of their daily life and ministry?

## Explore and apply

Explore the major themes raised in the video. Critically engage with the theology. Consider the questions that respond to the issues raised in your preliminary discussion. Apply the answers to these questions in your own setting. Ensure the discussion is specifically drawing on your local setting. Make sure the discussion is relevant to the lives of faith for your small group or college class. Encourage relevant and thoughtful examples from each participant.

1. Along with her husband Andy, Carol founded the JusTice Initiative. What's aim of this work, and what kinds of activities do they get involved in with the JusTice Initiative? See <https://justiceadvocacyandmission.wordpress.com/about/>
2. How can Christians better reflect on, and engage with, biblical paradigms of justice, advocacy and reconciliation?
3. What are some of these biblical paradigms?
4. How does the JusTice Initiative partner with practitioners and other organisations to effect well-informed and meaningful thinking and action in responses to injustice?
5. What does it mean to developing clear frameworks for advocacy and reconciliation, as an integral part of vibrant faith and spirituality in action?
6. How does a Christian understanding of justice embrace spiritual, socio-political, economic, and environmental issues?
7. In the book "Carnival Kingdom", the authors show how the first Christians lived out a new social order. They envisaged the world anew. What was their vision?
8. How is this upside-down Kingdom echoed in the Carnival festivals of the Medieval era?
9. How might the church take up the Carnival's call for justice and a renewed society?
10. How can local churches portray, in their own contexts, the Kingdom of God coming in justice and fullness of life - the coming of the Carnival Kingdom?
11. What is the mission of the church? How does it pursue this mission?
12. How does Carol define integral mission?

## Informing Community

Facilitate the space for your group to respond to the discussion. You might consider this section as a personal time of written journal responses to the following questions.

1. What is God encouraging our group and me, to do?
2. In response to the issues raised in the video, what are areas I want to ask God for forgiveness in? How do I need to change? What does God want me to stand up for?
3. How do I need God to minister to me and my community, for us to better engage with the contextual issues of our community?
4. How can I gain a better understanding of the issues discussed in this video? What do we ask that God would do in our hearts?

## Prayer

Spend time in prayer over what you've learnt.

Invite the ministry of the Holy Spirit to clarify, heal, and inspire change for your participants and communities.

## Links

**Website:** [www.theglobalchurchproject.com](http://www.theglobalchurchproject.com)

**Books:**

Graham Hill, *GlobalChurch: Reshaping Our Conversations, Renewing Our Mission, Revitalizing Our Churches* (IVP Academic, 2016).

Graham Hill, *Salt, Light, and a City (Second Edition): Ecclesiology for the Global Missional Community: Volume 1, Western Voices* (Cascade, 2017).