



Behold!

Behold, the wages of the laborers who mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud, are crying out against you...

James 5:4

Mini Scripture study (D):

Romans 12 (NRSV) and/or James 5:4 (NRSV)

Start by reading above passage(s), before you begin with study questions.
Take a moment to pray the “Prayer of Illumination” * – (repeat 3X)

Discussion questions:

- What are issues affecting workers in our own community? Have we heard from, are we in relationship with, or walked along side directly impacted persons?
- What people resources/assets do we have in our congregation? Directly impacted person? Stockholders? Elected Officials? Media? Social Media influencers? Investors? Corporate Board Members? How can we best educate and engage them to work towards a just, equitable, sustainable global economy rooted in Biblical debt jubilee?

Additional material to better integrate this lesson.

a. Wage Theft/fraud – Unfortunately it is quite common for employers to steal wages from workers, that is to fail to pay employees all they earn. Up to two-thirds of workers in low-wage industries are victims of wage theft each week. Failure to pay for all hours worked or for overtime are just some examples of the ways employers steal wages. .

b. Work to end wage theft in your community. Learn more.
Low-wage workers are high-value people, created in the image of God. All jobs must provide fair wages, benefits, and working conditions. Workers must be able to support themselves and their families and live with dignity the life of wholeness that God intends for all. God’s reign does not stop at the door to the workplace but extends to all aspects of life including our work lives. View and discuss Asset Based Community Development Overview

Action Item:

- What is God calling you and your faith community to do?
- What are your goals and timeline for completion?

Further Reading/Discussion:

- Interfaith Center for Corporate Responsibility Theory of Change
- Poor People's Campaign Jubilee Platform

*Prayer of Illumination

Creator God,

We welcome you in this space

May your liberating spirit

Saturate and transform this physical/virtual space and enliven our Covenant

Open our hearts and minds to receive, reflect, and redress

Engage our senses

Engage our bodies

Engage our souls

We are yours.

Transform us together now and always

In community we prayer,

Amen.

With your generous support, The United Church of Christ, through the Neighbors in Need Special Mission Offering, helps its members live out their beliefs via acts of service.

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For more resources and to share and learn best practices for economic justice/change, join the UCC Economic Justice Champions, [here](#).

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