PSALMS | AMEN Bible Study 2018-19 "God's Justice Toward the Weak and the Needy" Psalm 82 May 2, 2019

Scripture Introduction:

- I. <u>The Courtroom</u> (Ps. 82:1, 3-4)
 - a. The Principal Characters:
 - i. God as Judge
 - ii. **The "gods"** (Ex. 21:6; 22:8; John 10:34-35)
 - b. Justice is something we must do (vv.3-4; Psalm 140:12; Micah 6:8)
 - c. Justice reflects God's Character (Deut. 10:17-18; Psalm 146:7-9; Isa. 30:18-19; 61:8-9)
 - d. We are called to reflect God's Character (Deut. 4:6-8; 10:19; Isa 1:17)
- II. **The Ruling** (Ps 82:2, 5-7)
 - a. **The Verdict** (v.2; Prov. 11:1; Prov. 29:7; Amos 5:18-24; James 2:8-9)
 - b. The Root Problem (v.5a)
 - c. The Consequence (v.5c)
 - d. **The Judgment** (vv.6-7; Deut. 14:1; Matt. 25:35-40)
- III. **The Promise** (Ps. 82:8; Matt. 6:10)
 - a. Hope that justice will reign (Amos 5:24; Isa. 51:4-5; Rev. 21)
 - **b. Reminded of the Gospel promise** (Rom. 5:8)
 - c. Empowerment for the sons of the Most High (Eph. 2:8-10; Titus 3:8)

Discussion Questions

- 1. What difference does it make for God to be the ultimate judge? What does God do as judge?
- 2. What does God's judgment in this passage teach you about God's character?
- 3. Looking around our society, would each line of God's judgment be accurate today?
- 4. Verse 8 is a prayer for the person concerned with justice for those being oppressed. What justice concerns within your own attention do you need to lift to God today?

Going Deeper

- 1. Who in your life has God given you the privilege to lead and influence? Have you shown them compassion and mercy?
- 2. God intends to use His Church to accomplish His purposes in the world. How might God use you to bring about justice in your community?