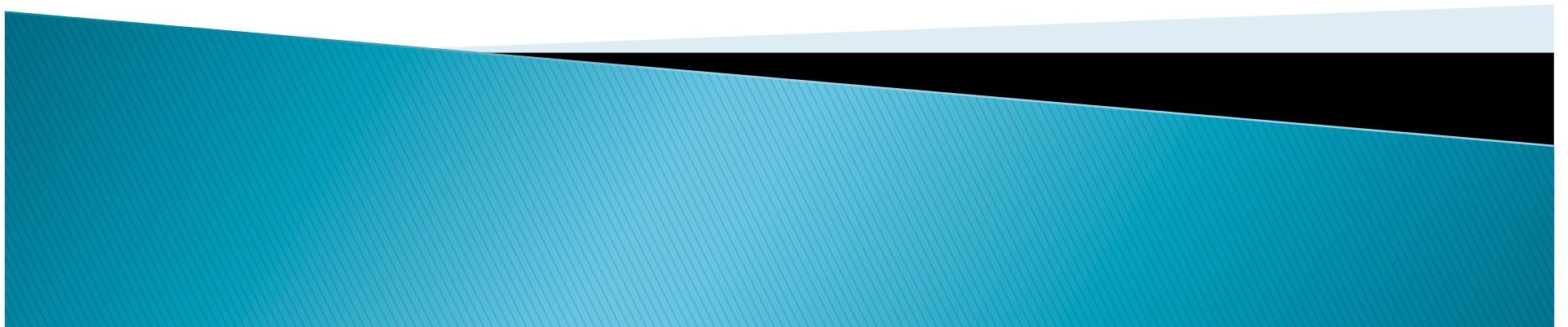


Doing Justice

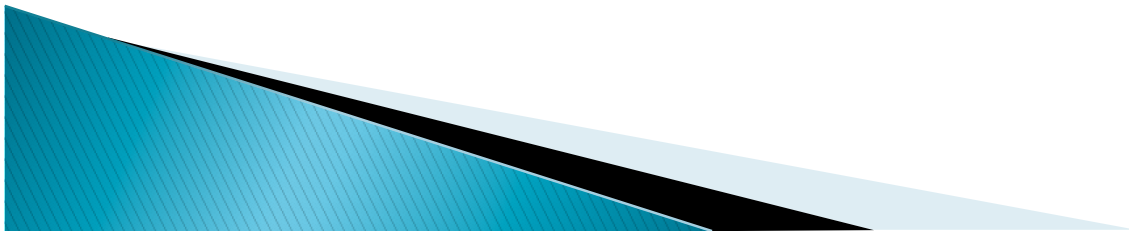
the

Agenda of God



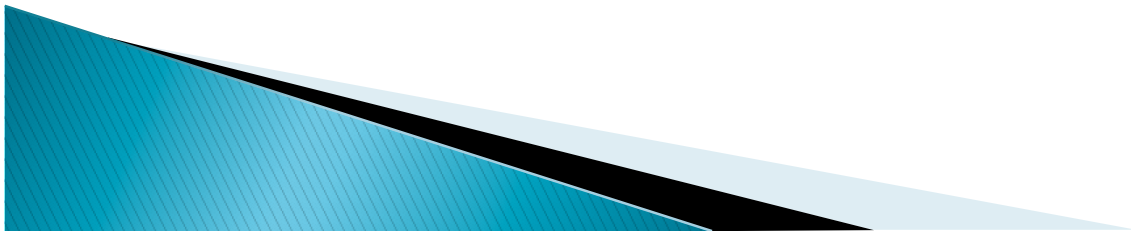
MICAH 6:8

**AND WHAT DOES
THE LORD
REQUIRE OF YOU?**



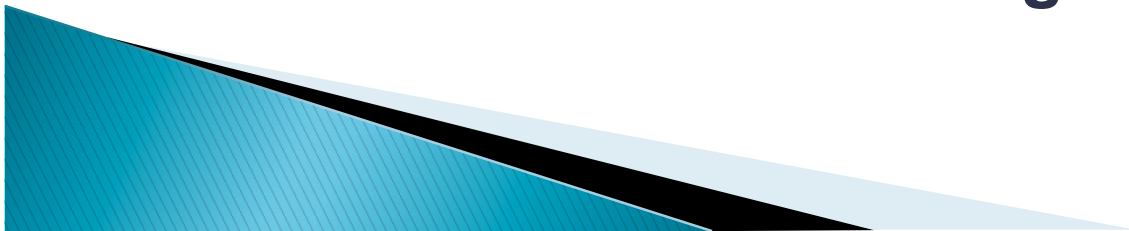
MICAH 6:8

...To act justly [tzedekah]
and to love mercy [hesed]
and to walk humbly with
your God.



TZADEKAH(seh-da-kah): PRIMARY JUSTICE

- ▶ **Tzadekah**: being just or being righteous; a life of right relationships; primarily about being in a right relationship with God, the righteous life that results is profoundly social. If this behavior was prevalent in the world, rectifying justice would be unnecessary.
- ▶ Primary justice is taking the time personally to meet the needs of a “neighbor”



HESED


- ▶ A key attribute in the Lord's self-description in Exodus 34:6-7
- ▶ Has no exact English equivalent
- ▶ In various versions, it appears as **kindness, faithfulness, mercy, goodness, loyalty and steadfast love.**
- ▶ Describes something that happens within an existing relationship
- ▶ An obligation that is placed on all of His people in Micah 6:8



JEREMIAH 9:23-24

This is what the LORD says:

“Let not the wise boast of their wisdom
or the strong boast of their strength
or the rich boast of their riches,
but let the one who boasts boast about this:
that they have the understanding to
know me,
that I am the LORD, who **exercises kindness**
[hesed],
justice [mishpat] and
righteousness [tzadekah] on earth,
for in these I delight,”
declares the LORD.



MISHPAT: RECTIFYING JUSTICE

Rectifying justice:


involvement that promotes equity

Mishpat:

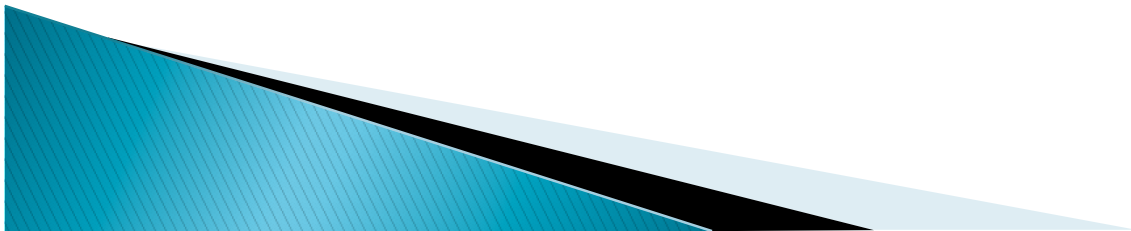
- ▶ **about treating people equitably**
- ▶ **giving people their due, whether punishment, protection, or care**
- ▶ **taking up the care and cause of the disadvantaged and vulnerable.**



MISHPAT: RECTIFYING JUSTICE

- ▶ **God loves, defends, and identifies with those with the least economic and social power**
 - ▶ **He expects us to also**
- 

SOCIAL JUSTICE
TZADEKAH & MISHPAT,
TIED TOGETHER,
CONVEY THE MEANING
“SOCIAL JUSTICE.”



SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

- ▶ **Has your understanding of justice and righteousness changed? If so, explain.**
- ▶ **To act justly is to live a life treating people equitably and promoting the equitable treatment of others. What does this mean for your Christian life?**
- ▶ **How is walking humbly with God central to acting justly and loving mercy?**

