

JUSTICE ISN'T HEARTLESS. MERCY ISN'T LAWLESS.

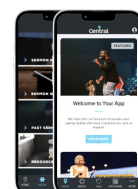
August 10, 2025 // Craig Rees

BIG IDEA: God designed borders, law, and people with purpose—but righteousness is what frames them all.

KEY SCRIPTURES:

Acts 13-28; 17:26; Deuteronomy 10:18-19; 23:3-4; 32:8
Genesis 12:1; 41:57; Exodus 12:48-49; Numbers 20:17-21
Isaiah 19:23-25; Matthew 2; 28:18-19; Ruth 1:16-17
Psalm 89:14; Luke 10:25-37; Romans 13:1-2

1. Why do borders matter, and what do they protect?
2. What does it mean that “borders bolster identity, but they are not greater than God’s purpose”? How should this truth shape Christian engagement with immigration?
3. Romans 13 implies that the law is meant to serve justice. How can Christians make sure that respect for the law doesn’t prevent them from seeking God’s justice for everyone, including immigrants?
4. How can we tell if we are following rules but missing people?
5. What is the difference between loving people through policy versus loving them through presence and proximity?
6. Righteousness involves posture, not just position. How can Christians cultivate a posture that reflects both justice and mercy?
7. When you think about people crossing borders—whether fleeing danger, seeking hope, or simply surviving—what stirs in your heart, and how might God be inviting you to respond with both compassion and conviction?
8. What happens when we idolize law or borders and ignore people? Conversely, what happens when we prioritize people but disregard law and justice?
9. What personal issue, decision, or tension are you currently facing that could benefit from being “framed”—by stepping back, locating yourself, and inviting the Spirit to lead you forward?



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