

# Undecided Justice

## Session 5



*"Wisdom cries out in the street; in the squares she raises her voice. At the busiest corner she cries out; at the entrance of the city gates she speaks: "How long, O simple ones, will you love being simple? How long will scoffers delight in their scoffing and fools hate knowledge?"*

(Proverbs 1.20-22)

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### Chapter One

1. What does Crossan mean by "distributive justice"? How is it different than "retributive justice"?
  
2. Crossan says, we have to profoundly reorient our theology: from divine punishment to human consequences; from divine forgiveness to human change; from divine mercy to human kindness. Discuss.
  
3. How did what seems like a simple message get so confusing that it takes scholars to interpret it for this generation?

### Chapter Two

1. What does Crossan mean by the "personification of a process"?
  
2. What are some of the characteristics of wisdom?

### Chapter Three

1. Crossan says, “One of the great questions is whether God is demanding charity or justice” – and by charity “I mean trying to remedy the results of a lack of distributive justice.” Discuss.
  
2. The Bible keeps mentioning widows, orphans and resident aliens. The prophets keep mentioning them. They also appear in the wisdom tradition. Who are the vulnerable groups in our culture? How has the system been set up to virtually guarantee that some people will have more than other people?