



Social Justice Handbook: Small Steps for a Better World (Bridgeleader Books)

By Mae Elise Cannon

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2010 *Outreach Magazine* Resource of the Year award winner: justice category
Every day we are confronted by challenging societal problems, from poverty and institutional racism to AIDS and homelessness. It can all seem so overwhelming. But while none of us can do everything, all of us can do something. This handbook will help you discover what you can do. Mae Elise Cannon provides a comprehensive resource for Christians like you who are committed to social justice. She presents biblical rationale for justice and explains a variety of Christian approaches to doing justice. Tracing the history of Christians in social engagement, she lifts out role models and examples from the Great Awakenings to the civil rights movement. A wide-ranging catalog of topics and issues give background info about justice issues at home and abroad, such as

- sex trafficking
- domestic violence
- living wage initiatives
- debt relief
- environmental stewardship
- bioethics
- and much, much more

This handbook includes dozens of practical exercises for taking action, as well as profiles of key figures and movements like William Wilberforce, the Salvation Army and Bono, highlighting how Christians and churches can make a difference. Also included are spiritual practices and resources to help us move from immobility to advocacy. God has always worked through his people to accomplish improbable tasks, and he can use you too. This handbook will be an essential companion for living justly, loving mercy and walking humbly with your God.

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Editorial Review

Review

"People from the Christian tradition who are new to social justice will find treasure here." (Pamela Haines, Friends Journal, April 2010)

"This handbook will help you discover what you can do about challenging societal problems . . . highlighting how Christians and churches can make a difference. Also included are spiritual practices and resources to help us move from immobility to advocacy. . . An essential companion for living justly, loving mercy, and walking humbly with your God." (Youth & Christian Education Leadership, Winter 2010-11)

"Written by Mae Elise Cannon, executive pastor of Hillside Covenant Church in Walnut Creek, CA, *Social Justice Handbook* provides a comprehensive resource for Christians committed to social justice. Cannon presents biblical rationale for justice and explains a variety of Christian approaches to doing justice. She traces the history of Christians in social engagement and highlights role models and examples from the Great Awakening periods of religious revival to the civil rights movement." (Kathleen Samuelson, CBA Retailers + Resources, November/December 2009)

"Highly recommended, it's more than another review of social issues, but a call to action." (James A. Cox, California Bookwatch, January 2010)

"Cannon helps her reader understand the larger history, ongoing dialogue and definition of justice as it pertains to Christian faith. This book offers numerous ideas for raising awareness and taking action to bring justice to all." (Peter Moore, Youth Worker Journal, January/February 2010)

"The *Social Justice Handbook* serves as a veritable global, ecclesial terminal, a launching-off point to the myriad ways that the shalom of Christ has gloriously broken forth in and through his rebellious and needy creation. Mae Cannon does this with the unequivocal passion of one who cares deeply about what the church is called to be. Through the *Handbook*, Cannon generously offers Christians tangible points of access to taste, and enter into, what God is doing in his world." (Craig Wong, executive director, Grace Urban Ministries, San Francisco, California)

"'The LORD . . . was displeased that there was no justice. . . . He was appalled that there was no one to intervene' (Isaiah 59:15-16). Churches have engaged in evangelism, teaching and compassion for years, while we have sat on the sidelines of justice. Mae moves us . . . from feet that are frozen to walking, from a framework to a path, and from inspiration to hard work and action. This is the most comprehensive and compelling work I've read on justice. This book has the potential to make our churches into the unstoppable forces God intended them to be, with justice for all." (Nancy Ortberg, author of *Looking for God: An Unexpected Journey Through Tattoos, Tofu and Pronouns*)

"People often ask me for resources on what they can do about injustice in the world. Now I can point them to Mae Cannon's *Social Justice Handbook*. This guide is packed full of resources and ideas for following the God of justice both at home and around the globe." (Gary A. Haugen, president and CEO, International Justice Mission)

"Jesus was about the justification of souls and justice for every soul and society. The church when at its best

has been devoted to both. This is a hands-on book on how to understand issues of justice and tangible ways to pursue it through local churches. Thank you, Mae." (Lon Allison, executive director, Billy Graham Center, Wheaton College)

"The moment you open *Social Justice Handbook*, it will vibrate in your hands with the heart-passion that inspired its making, a passion generated by him who described his life-mission as bringing good news to the poor, release to captives, sight to the blind, freedom to the oppressed and the time of God's grace. This book will simply not allow all those great intentions to become lost in theory. It will take you by the hand and lead you step by step into their glorious implementation." (Gilbert Bilezikian, Professor Emeritus, Wheaton College, and a founding leader of Willow Creek Community Church)

"Mae Cannon has done what many would deem impossible: she has developed a solid introduction to social justice rooted in Scripture, she has given churches concrete steps for becoming agents of social justice, and she has provided an amazingly comprehensive overview of justice-related issues that we face in our world today. And she has done so in a clear, readable, accessible style that people in your church will appreciate. Through her work and the work of many others like her, what seemed impossible even a few years ago may be happening soon--thousands of American churches growing beyond an 'it's all about me' spirituality to a more mature identity as communities of integral mission." (Brian McLaren, author of *Everything Must Change*)

"In her new book, *Social Justice Handbook*, Mae Elise Cannon provides a comprehensive, historical overview of individuals and organizations that have effectively influenced others to take action on issues of social justice. There should be no question about the role and responsibility of the body of Christ to care for the poor and needy, as over two thousand Scripture references clearly indicate the heart of God and his mandate to us as believers. As well as providing the historical background of many life-changing causes, Cannon lists small steps that we can each take to actively live out our faith in tangible, practical ways as advocates for Christ and his work here on earth." (Dr. Wess Stafford, president and CEO, Compassion International)

"This handbook will help you find your place in God's global work of social justice. . . . I pray that this book will give you ideas for living out God's call on your life in ways that are surprising and unexpected." (from the foreword by John Perkins)

"*Social Justice Handbook* is more than a manual for public discipleship; it is a comprehensive account of Christian social conviction that reads like an apologetics of the faith. I am in awe of this book!" (Charles Marsh, author of *The Beloved Community: How Faith Shapes Social Justice*, from the Civil Rights Movement to Today, and professor of religious studies and director of the Project on Lived Theology, University of Virginia)

"*Social Justice Handbook* is a highly valuable aid to every pastor and church leader. This book tells us how to get started on social justice causes and where to find the groups that support the causes we believe in." (Alvera Mickelsen, writer, editor and educator)

"*Social Justice Handbook* is a long overdue work. Despite the resurgence of interest in justice by many churches, there has been a noticeable lack of available resources on this topic. Mae Cannon gives us the biblical framework that can spur churches to action as well as giving us practical tips and real-life models and examples of how justice can be lived out in our world. For any individual, Christian fellowship or church wanting to grow in the area of biblical social justice, this is the book you want to get." (Soong-Chan Rah, Milton B. Engebretson Assistant Professor of Church Growth and Evangelism, North Park Theological

Seminary, and author of *The Next Evangelicalism*)

"This is a cookbook for plotting goodness and stirring up holy mischief. Take a look and find a recipe for revolution. Then let us take it to the streets--interrupting injustice with grace, surprising the world with joy and whispering God's love to a broken world." (Shane Claiborne, activist, author and lover, www.thesimpleway.org)

"Mae Cannon's passion, compassion and theological strength of calling as an advocate for the 'least of these' leaps off of every page of the *Social Justice Handbook*. This book informs the average follower of Christ and the Christian leader alike to act as Jesus would in the face of injustice. Mae's call for action convicts us all to do something for Christ's sake. Every Christian needs this book within arm's reach." (Dr. David Anderson, senior pastor, Bridgeway Community Church)

Review

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Richard McCain:

Why don't make it to be your habit? Right now, try to prepare your time to do the important behave, like looking for your favorite reserve and reading a publication. Beside you can solve your problem; you can add your knowledge by the e-book entitled *Social Justice Handbook: Small Steps for a Better World* (Bridgeleader Books). Try to the actual book *Social Justice Handbook: Small Steps for a Better World* (Bridgeleader Books) as your close friend. It means that it can to be your friend when you experience alone and beside those of course make you smarter than ever. Yeah, it is very fortunated for you personally. The book makes you more confidence because you can know every little thing by the book. So , let's make new experience in addition to knowledge with this book.

Megan Snyder:

A lot of people always spent their very own free time to vacation or perhaps go to the outside with them family members or their friend. Do you realize? Many a lot of people spent they free time just watching TV, as well as playing video games all day long. If you wish to try to find a new activity that is look different you

can read the book. It is really fun for you personally. If you enjoy the book you read you can spent the entire day to reading a book. The book Social Justice Handbook: Small Steps for a Better World (Bridgeleader Books) it is very good to read. There are a lot of individuals who recommended this book. They were enjoying reading this book. If you did not have enough space to create this book you can buy often the e-book. You can m0ore quickly to read this book through your smart phone. The price is not to cover but this book has high quality.

Ryan Calhoun:

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Floyd Alling:

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