

FAITH-ROOTED ORGANIZING & ADVOCACY

As people of faith, we know that building toward justice is important, but we aren't always given the space to unpack how our faith strengthens our advocacy and organizing.

HERE ARE A FEW WAYS YOUR FAITH SUPPORTS JUSTICE WORK:

IT PROVIDES RADICAL HOPE:

Hope can sometimes seem foolish, especially when all seems lost. However, our faith reminds us that God is on the side of justice and that love will win out in the end. Turning to our faith can help us weather through difficult seasons of organizing and advocacy. Much like the persistent widow in Luke 18, we continue on knowing that we are working toward a better world.



IT HELPS US SEE THE IMAGE OF GOD IN ALL PEOPLE:

As people of faith, we seek to honor neighbors and strangers alike, and appreciate each person's unique presence, potential, and ability. When it comes to advocacy and organizing, our faith reminds us that every person has a role to play. We understand that people are not instruments to build power, but rather they are our friends, loved ones, and community members.



IT GRANTS US WISDOM AND COMPASSION:

Many in power see politics as a game, but as people of faith we know that this mindset comes from earthly barriers and an inability to see all people as made the image of God. It can be easy to villainize those in power, particularly when certain individuals have made decisions that directly hurt our communities. If you are someone who has been harmed by those in power, it can seem dangerous and foolish to continue in your work. And while it can be easy to deem those in power villains, that language does not capture their full humanity. Through our faith, we can more fully understand a person and how they ended up how they are. This wisdom and compassion can help us see the full picture, dream more clearly, plan more wisely, and work more strategically toward a world where all can thrive.



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IT PROVIDES DIRECTION:

We must always center the needs and perspectives of those being harmed by our society. Everyone is doing the best they can with the resources they have. Unfortunately, not everyone has been given the adequate resources they need to survive and to thrive. As people of faith, our organizing and advocacy must examine the systems that provide inadequate resources to our communities and work towards love, honor, and care for our neighbors.



IT CENTERS US IN THE BELOVED COMMUNITY AND THE "ALREADY, BUT NOT YET":

As Christians, we are called to work toward Beloved Community, which requires us to love deeply and dream beyond our wildest imagination. The Beloved Community is a society in which neither punishment nor privilege is tied to race, ethnicity, gender identity, or sexual orientation, and where our diversity as a community and nation is celebrated and embraced as a source of strength.

Beloved Community is already here, but we cannot yet experience the fullness of what is to come. Our timeline surpasses our own lifetimes. Being rooted in our faith reminds us that our work was started generations ago and will continue for generations to come. We, like those before us, are able to ask:

**What could a world where all can thrive look like?
How can we continue to build that together?**



WANT TO LEARN MORE?

To learn more about faith-rooted organizing and advocacy, check out "Faith-Rooted Organizing: Mobilizing the Church in Service to the World" by Alexia Salvatierra and Peter Heltzel and "A More Perfect Union" by Adam Russell Taylor.

Looking for a community of faith that cares deeply about justice and works to build a better world together? Join the Faith-Rooted Advocates Network! Learn more at sojo.net/FRAN.