



SOCIAL PRINCIPLES: A RESOURCE FOR MISSION AND MINISTRY



ECONOMIC COMMUNITY

The Economic Community section is divided into three parts: the preface, which connects the topic to Wesleyan history, scripture, and theology; Economic Challenges, which outlines the global economic issues faced today; and Economic Justice, which details our commitment to creating fair and sustainable economies.

Topics Included in the Economic Community:

- Globalization
- Poverty & Income Inequality
- Human Trafficking & Slavery
- Graft, Bribery & Corruption
- Sabbath & Renewal Time
- Responsible Consumerism
- Farming & Agricultural Production
- The Dignity of Work
- Corporate Responsibility

Read the Economic Community and Discuss

Use the following questions to guide personal study or facilitate small group discussions within your church. Focus on linking the issues to your local church and community, while keeping the broader global context in mind

Explore Ways to Move From Discussion to Advocacy Translating Faith Into Action

- What economic inequalities and injustices are prevalent in your local community?
- What are specific ways the church can address these issues through local initiatives, expanding current ministries, partnering with community organizations, and advocating for policy changes?
- Read Amos 5:7-13, Matthew 25:3-46, and James 2:15-16. How can the church deepen its response to economic injustice by engaging with and supporting “the least of these” in our community, and what practical steps can we take to ensure that our efforts promote lasting, equitable change for those most in need?
- Examine the global economic inequalities and their effects on vulnerable communities. How can your local community’s actions impact a community beyond your immediate environment?

Additional Resources:

John Wesley, “The Use of Money”

Faith & Facts Cards (updated and released in 2025)

Faith & Justice Youth Curriculum (updated and released in 2025)

GBCS Economic Justice Page:

<https://www.umcjustice.org/what-we-care-about/economic-justice>

UNITED METHODIST
**SOCIAL
PRINCIPLES**
As Adopted by General Conference Charlotte, 2024