

A close-up portrait of a woman with dark skin and short, curly hair, looking directly at the camera with a neutral expression. She is wearing a purple patterned top and a colorful beaded necklace. The background is dark and out of focus.

INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE MISSION

Advocacy Devotional: Stand in the gap



IJM

INTRODUCTION

Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy.

- Proverbs 31:8-9

Government leaders are uniquely placed to bring about real change for people living in oppression around the world. Often, however, politicians can appear to be inactive about such issues, or even not know the challenges faced by some, both locally and across the world.

Isaiah 10:1-2 makes clear that God has no tolerance for leaders who do not act on behalf of those who are oppressed. Over and over in Scripture, God sends ordinary men and women, from a variety of sources, to speak to the most powerful leaders of the day and express his displeasure with the ruling perpetrators of injustice. Moses, Nathan, Esther, Paul and others all obeyed God's call to speak for those in need.

Similarly, God's call to us is to bridge the gap between our leaders and those who have no voice. We must stand in the gap and ask our leaders to move on behalf of the global poor. Our leaders must use their influence to promote justice - and we must encourage them to do it. In this, we are following the example of Jesus, who is shown to intercede for us with the Father in **Romans 8:34** and **Hebrews 7:25**.

For most of us, this is not an easy thing to do. The actions and priorities of our leaders can feel foreign to our daily lives. But like many Biblical advocates who prepared for their encounters by praying, and acted in-line with their God-given skills and opportunities, we too must pray, plan and prepare.

This seven-session devotional is designed to help you consider how you might also advocate for justice in your spheres of influence. Each session looks at a different Biblical advocate and encourages you to consider how the lives of these individuals provide inspiration and ideas which we can apply today. There are prayer points to help as you begin to intercede - to stand in the gap - with your leaders. Should you wish, there are also action points which, over the series, will enable you to advocate with your local Member of Parliament.

By the end of this devotional, we hope you will be equipped and inspired to speak out on behalf of the poor and vulnerable around our world. Use it alone or with a small group, all at once or over several weeks. We hope you are encouraged by these biblical advocates as you raise your voice on behalf of those who have none.

Before you start, here are some preliminary actions you can take:



PRAY: **1 Timothy 2:1-4** describes the importance of prayer for our leaders. This applies not only to elected officials, but to community leaders, service provider managers and others.

- Ask for wisdom, humility and courage for elected leaders at every level of government - that they would help everyone live, in Timothy's words, a "peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way."
- Pray for your local Police & Crime Commissioner, local judges, partners in local law firms and community leaders (including your church leaders). Pray that they would speak up for the rights of the poor and the needy.



TAKE ACTION: If you are going to build a relationship with your MP, it is important to find out a little bit about them; this can help draw their interest when you make contact with them. Create a one-page 'brief' outlining some basic information about your MP. Below are some ideas of the type of information you might want to collect (see the Appendix for websites which might help you in this):

- **Personal information:** Are they married? Where did they go to school? What did they study at University?
- **Interests:** Do they campaign for any charities/are they on any charity boards? Have they spoken about their views on any issues like slavery, child abuse, equality, access to justice?
- **Political Details:** Are they a member of any All-Party Political Groups? Are they/have they been a government Minister? What issues have they spoken about in the past?

SESSION 1: MOSES THE RELUCTANT LEADER

The Lord said... "So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt." But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" And God said, "I will be with you."

- Exodus 3:9-12

Moses was raised in the royal palace, a close relative of the future Pharaoh. It is likely that, had he followed the path planned for him by his adoptive family, he would have become a General. He was a powerful man with powerful connections.

None of this meant anything when God called him to return to Egypt to speak for the enslaved Israelite people. Moses had fled as a murderer and an outcast, and had been living ever since as a humble shepherd. Any royal bearing or political training had long been left behind. All that remained was fear.

Many of us rarely interact with our elected leaders, so, like Moses, we can feel afraid. But from our positions of relative wealth and privilege in the West, the call still stands to raise our voices on behalf of the oppressed around the world. God promises us - just as he promised Moses - that he will be by our side. We are invited to take on the challenge of advocacy and bring freedom to those in need. He wants us to be his hands and feet.



DISCUSS: Using **Exodus** as a guide, how does God respond to Moses' question, "Who am I?" What is God's sign that he has indeed called Moses to this task? If you look ahead at the rest of Moses' story after this point, do we hear again of Moses' fears? How does God continue to support Moses in his advocacy efforts?



FOR FURTHER THOUGHT: **Daniel 2: 19-22** reminds us that ultimate power rests with God. No matter how powerful our leaders might seem, they are nothing compared to God's authority. When the idea of facing your political representatives seems too terrifying to contemplate, remember that "the God of Heaven...deposes kings and raises up others". With him, nothing is impossible; and just as he promised Moses, he too will be with us.



PRAY:

- Praise God for his ultimate sovereignty. Thank him for empowering you to act in his name.
- Pray for courage to take risks as we follow God's plan for our advocacy. Pray for boldness, knowing that he goes with us.

- Invite God into your work of advocacy and lean into him in the areas that feel intimidating, strange or unsure.



TAKE ACTION: What might intimidate you about advocating to your government leaders? How, or in what areas, do you feel unprepared? Spend some time identifying the things that hold you back from speaking publicly on behalf of the oppressed. Think about issues that might be a barrier for others in your church. In Session 3, we will consider how to overcome these issues.

Please use this section to note any thoughts and write your answers as you reflect on the discussion points above.

SESSION 2: JEREMIAH THE WEEPING PROPHET

“O Sovereign Lord,” I said, “I do not know how to speak; I am too young”. But the Lord said to me, “Do not say, ‘I am too young.’ You must go to everyone I send you to and say whatever I command you.”

– Jeremiah 1:6-7

Jeremiah was wary of his calling, feeling inhibited by his youth and inexperience. We do not know much about his upbringing, but **Jeremiah 1:1** notes that he was a priest in Anathoth in the territory of Benjamin. He was not part of the King’s court, nor was he part of the Temple in Jerusalem. Jeremiah may have felt that he lacked the training, education and experience to be an effective advocate. Perhaps he even tried to convince himself that there were others who would be better suited to the task of prophesying to God’s people.

When Jeremiah explained his fears, he was not met with a promise of training. No mentor was provided to teach him leadership skills, or campaign tactics, or how to command an audience. Nor was he given time to learn these things himself. Instead, “the Lord reached out his hand and touched my mouth and said to me, ‘I have put my words in your mouth. See, today I appoint you over nations and kingdoms to uproot and tear down, to destroy and overthrow, to build and to plant.’” (**Jeremiah 1:9-10**). Because of his trust and dependence on him, God transformed Jeremiah into a creative and persistent advocate and he soon prophesied to many leaders.

Jeremiah grieved for the state of his community. In chapter 20, he wishes that he had not even been born, in order that he would not have to see the “trouble and shame” of his country. His words are a passionate plea for his people to change their ways and become loving, Godly people.

In order to advocate effectively with our elected leaders, we must know and understand the realities of injustice around the world. Simply reciting a list of facts and statistics is unlikely to result in action. Further, we must be able to communicate this reality in ways that makes the need for justice real, powerful and urgent. Only then can we persuade our leaders of the need for action.



DISCUSS: Is it possible to advocate for change if you have no experience? What advantage might your inexperience give you? If you were put into a situation where you had no experience, how would your faith sustain and strengthen you? What are effective ways to bring the realities of injustice to light?



FOR FURTHER THOUGHT: Despite his initial fears, Jeremiah was a bold and effective advocate. But he is not the only Biblical hero to demonstrate great wisdom when called upon to speak with political leaders. In **Genesis 40**, Joseph is given the power to interpret dreams and in **Daniel 1:17-20**, Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah are described as wiser than all the King’s other advisors. When God calls us to advocate, he will give – or reveal – the gifts and opportunities to allow us to do this work.



PRAY:

- Ask God to give you wisdom in uncertain and unfamiliar situations. Ask him for strength and confidence to undertake the work for which he has called you.
- Pray for comfort for those who are living in violence and oppression. Pray that you and your political representatives would have empathy and understanding.



TAKE ACTION: Research global issues of injustice and study stories of justice at IJMUK.org/news or in international media. Try to empathise with the men, women and children living in oppression and let their stories fuel your desire to act on their behalf. Print out some of the stories that have a deep impact on you. Record and memorise the key elements of the stories. Think about how you would use them to impact your MP and bring alive issues of injustice.

Please use this section to note any thoughts and write your answers as you reflect on the discussion points above.

SESSION 3: NATHAN THE RISK TAKER

Then Nathan said to David, “You are the man! This is what the Lord, the God of Israel says: I anointed you over Israel and I delivered you from the hand of Saul... Why did you despise the word of the Lord by doing what is evil in his eyes?”

- 2 Samuel 12:7 & 9a

David is one of the most famous of the Old Testament kings. He was God’s anointed king and had freed Israel from the increasingly despotic rule of Saul. In contrast to the path of Moses, he had gone from being one of the most humble people in the Kingdom to ultimate leadership. In **2 Samuel 7**, Nathan himself had been sent to share his covenant with David so that David’s name would be made “famous throughout the earth”.

When, a few chapters later, God sends Nathan back to confront this powerful king about his adultery with Bathsheba, it must have been daunting. After all, Bathsheba’s husband had been killed at David’s order, so that all obstacles to their relationship could be removed. What would David do to a prophet who dared to speak against this new marriage?

Asking authorities to fight injustice can be intimidating, as Nathan likely felt before King David. Sometimes it may be necessary to speak against political leaders and to criticise their actions. The consequences of this can be terrifying, but we are called to be bold and to speak the truth.



DISCUSS: Read **2 Samuel 11 and 12:1-13**. What risk did Nathan take in confronting David? What were the potential consequences? From where do you think Nathan gained strength and courage? What do you think these callings could look like today?



FOR FURTHER THOUGHT: **2 Timothy 1:7** assures us that “the Spirit of the Lord does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline”. Take courage that, as we stand before our leaders, we are filled with God’s power and authority. We are not alone.



PRAY:

- Ask for unity and vision as you or your church move into risky or unfamiliar places to obey God’s call to speak up for the oppressed.
- Ask God to continue giving you courage, as well as a spirit of power, love and self-discipline.



TAKE ACTION: Think about how you might confront and overcome the fears you recorded in Session 1. Is there someone you can go to for advice or counselling? What Bible passages can you think of that might encourage you?

Consider taking your list of fears and burning it while lifting them to God, or cutting it into pieces. See the Appendix on ideas of how you can gain more experience with public speaking or campaigning.

Please use this section to note any thoughts and write your answers as you reflect on the discussion points above.

SESSION 4: NEHEMIAH

THE MOBILISER

Then I said to them, "You see the trouble we are in: Jerusalem lies in ruins and its gates have been burned with fire. Come, let us rebuild the wall of Jerusalem and we will no longer be in disgrace". I also told them about the gracious hand of my God on me and what the king had said to me. They replied, "Let us start rebuilding." So they began this good work.

- Nehemiah 2:17-18

When Nehemiah first advocated to King Artaxerxes for resources to rebuild Jerusalem, he undertook a bold and courageous act backed up by prayer and trust in the Lord. He stood alone before the court and asked for permission to rebuild the city of a conquered people, a seemingly impossible task.

He did not, however, remain alone for long. Nehemiah reunited a scattered, oppressed community and successfully led them to rebuild and repair the wall around their city. Chapter 3 gives a beautiful description of individuals working side by side in unity. In Chapter 10 we are presented with a "binding agreement" signed by the city leaders and affirmed by all the people, outlining the shared responsibilities of the community.

Nehemiah took action in ways that those in Jerusalem could not and he led other people in accomplishing a God-sized task. He even partnered with, and influenced people who did not know God in order to meet tangible needs and achieve results that testified to the power, goodness and faithfulness of God. Not only did Nehemiah advocate for those who could not speak for themselves, but by taking action, he was able to bring transformation to the entire community.

The great thing about being a part of the Church is that we don't have to advocate for justice alone!



DISCUSS: Do you agree that it is better to work in partnership with others? What are the problems/risks of doing so? What might be the unexpected benefits? How did Nehemiah go about bringing together the people of Jerusalem? What can we learn from his attitudes to those with whom he worked?



FOR FURTHER THOUGHT: We all have different gifts, experiences and expertise to offer. When these are combined, we become a stronger unit and can create greater change. This is how we work together as a movement of the Spirit to bring justice. We are called to work in unity, to balance our own gifts alongside of those with whom we worship. Read **Romans 12:3-7** and **1 Corinthians 12:12-14** for inspiration.



PRAY:

- Pray for discernment as you join together with others for greater change. Ask for courage like that of Nehemiah to initiate action.
- Ask for God's provision as you or your church meet influential decision-makers. Pray that they would be open to your requests and petitions, as King Artaxerxes was with Nehemiah.



TAKE ACTION: Identify your specific gifts, experiences and expertise which you can use to speak up for the vulnerable. Consider who may be interested in joining you on this path of advocacy, and what skills they might have which would complement your own talents. How can you work together to increase your impact? In what skills or experience are you weaker, that others might be able to meet?

Please use this section to note any thoughts and write your answers as you reflect on the discussion points above.

SESSION 5: PAUL THE RESPECTFUL REBEL

Those who were standing near Paul said, "How dare you insult God's high priest!" Paul replied, "Brothers, I did not realise that he was the high priest; for it is written: 'Do not speak evil about the ruler of your people.'" - Acts 23:4-5

Before he became a follower of Christ, Paul had been a member of the Sanhedrin. He had obeyed the law and followed orders. It must have been incredibly tempting, upon joining the early Church, to turn his back wholeheartedly on the Jewish authorities who had overseen his extensive persecution of Christians.

Instead, Paul presented himself as a loyal Jew who had no desire to overthrow the Roman rule. He did not preach damnation or prophesy destruction, but instead used his legal training to defend himself, and even requested a further hearing before Caesar himself, the ultimate power in the Roman Empire.

Unless we have spent time with political leaders, our opinions tend to be negative ones. We do not often recognise the positive things they have done, but instead take note of all the things they haven't done, or have done wrongly or badly. If we disagree with them on certain issues, or if the media highlights an action that tarnishes their reputation, we can lose all respect for them and speak of them dismissively. But when Paul realised that he had accidentally insulted the High Priest, he apologised. He quoted from the Law of Moses, "do not curse the ruler of your people".

If we approach advocacy with an adversarial attitude, it should not be surprising if we are met with hostility. Instead, we must set aside our differences and focus on the things we have in common. If we struggle to find anything in common with our political leaders, we must still respect that they are entitled to their opinions as much as we are, even if we do not agree with them.



DISCUSS: Read **Romans 13:1-7**. Why should we obey Paul's instruction to submit to governing authorities? How can we do this, even if we vehemently oppose the opinions and actions of those authorities? How might not submitting damage our credibility?



FOR FURTHER THOUGHT: **James 1:22-25** cautions us not just to read the word of God but also to follow it. Despite his respectful attitude (an approach also advised in **1 Peter 2:13-17**), Paul never compromised his central message: The proclamation of Jesus as Christ. Instead, he gave his message with respect and used his legal and religious background to his advantage. We see similar examples throughout the Bible. When Daniel faces King Nebuchadnezzar's officials in **Daniel 1** (and later the King himself in chapter 2), he speaks with courtesy while also standing firm in his service to God.



PRAY:

- Ask God to take away any disrespectful feelings you may have towards your MP. Pray for grace and wisdom when discussing issues upon which you and your MP disagree.
- Ask God to show you where you may be displaying inflexible attitudes in your own political views. Pray for guidance in how to negotiate without compromising your central beliefs.



TAKE ACTION: If you disagree with your MP on some issues, construct statements to support your views in advance of any communication. Consider whether there is a middle ground; if the disagreement is too fundamental and you are unable to reach any understanding, think about how you might respectfully broach your disagreement without combativeness.

Reflect back on your own skills and expertise identified in Session 4 and explore how, like Paul, you can use these to your advantage when communicating with political leaders.

Please use this section to note any thoughts and write your answers as you reflect on the discussion points above.

SESSION 6: ESTHER THE BOLD VOICE

Then Queen Esther answered, "If I have found favour with you, Your Majesty, and if it pleases you, grant me my life – this is my petition. And spare my people – this is my request. For I and my people have been sold to be destroyed, killed and annihilated".

- Esther 7:3-4a

Esther became Queen because the King's previous wife had refused to obey his commands. She entered a position of influence in such a way that the consequences of getting it wrong must have been forefront in her mind. Like Jeremiah, she must have felt inadequate to the task.

Like Nathan, when she petitioned the King, she took a bold step that could have resulted in her death. Like Nehemiah, she took strength from prayer and the support of her people in order to accomplish the task set before her. However, when she stood before the King, she did it without the clear voice of God promising to be with her, which was of such comfort to Moses. She took God's support on faith.

And because she, like Paul, acted with respect, she was in turn treated with respect. Esther used her influence to advocate to the king on behalf of all the Jews whom Haman, a man of power, was threatening to annihilate. Although all the odds were against her, she succeeded in protecting her people.

Even if you have no official power or title, your voice can influence those in authority. Esther's story shows how God uses his people to go bravely before people of influence to bring about his desires and encourage those of influence to use power to bring prosperity rather than to oppress.



DISCUSS: Esther is the only Book of the Bible that doesn't directly mention God. Does this mean that God wasn't with her? You might think that Esther's position as Queen gave her an advantage and that 'ordinary people' could never have such opportunities. How can we follow Esther's example despite our comparative lack of connection to those in power?



FOR FURTHER THOUGHT: According to scholars, Esther's husband, the King, was the father of King Artaxerxes I, who later allowed Ezra and Nehemiah to return to Jerusalem. Whatever her direct relationship with King Artaxerxes, Esther will likely have been an influence in his life, even if just that the events described in Esther would have been well-known, a story often told. Perhaps Esther's story played a part in the decision to allow Ezra and Nehemiah to

rebuild Jerusalem. Of course, this is impossible to know for certain. But we may never know how our advocacy efforts (both good and bad) may continue to impact those we meet long after the initial meeting.



PRAY:

- Thank God for using ordinary people and giving us the courage to step forward in faith. Ask for wisdom about how to thoughtfully and respectfully approach leaders.
- Pray for openness within our leaders' hearts; that they would be moved to use their power and resources to protect victims of injustice around the world.



TAKE ACTION: Taking into account all the research, ideas and prayer generated from this study, make the first step in building a relationship with your political leaders. You might want to write a letter or email, or attend a constituency surgery. Raise your concerns about an issue of injustice, either locally, nationally or globally. Ask your MP how he/she intends to combat it. See the Appendix for tips on how to contact your MP.

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SESSION 7: JESUS THE PERFECT ADVOCATE

"The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour."

- Luke 4:18-19

In **Luke 4**, Jesus returns to Nazareth to begin his ministry and reads these words from **Isaiah 61:1-2** in the synagogue. We have no better model for advocating for the oppressed than Jesus. In everything he says and does, he champions our needs: we all need rescue, redemption and love. On Earth, he was never afraid to confront leaders on their shortcomings. And he willingly acted against laws that oppressed the poor (like not healing on the Sabbath) and criticised religious leaders for misusing the temple.

Jesus lived a life of radical love to all those in need of a saviour. His challenges to authority led to his death, but he never strayed from his message of love and justice. The Gospel of Luke is full of stories demonstrating Jesus' love for people on the margins of society - people that power and authority often ignore. The well-known story of the Good Samaritan in **Luke 10:25-37** describes the Samaritan who stops and helps the man from Jerusalem - someone who he would've been brought up to oppose. He provides for the person in need, despite his society and cultural background telling him not to.



DISCUSS: In what ways did Jesus model advocacy for the poor? How can we model the balanced attitude of justice and love like Jesus? Is it more important to care for those in need by means of practical help, or to represent them through political advocacy? Is there a reason we can't do both?



FOR FURTHER THOUGHT: Read **Hebrews 7:25** and **1 John 2:1**. Christ is our defender and advocate; he intercedes with the father on our behalf despite all the wrong we have done. There are many places in the Bible where Jesus is similarly portrayed as an advocate for the needy, the afflicted, the outcast and the oppressed while on Earth. It can be tempting to only advocate on behalf of those with whom we have something in common, but we are called also to represent all those who need an advocate, even those we would not normally associate with.



PRAY:

- Pray against the powers perpetuating injustice and preying upon the poor and vulnerable.
- Ask God to show you how to be his hands and feet for preaching good news to the poor, proclaiming freedom for the prisoners and setting the oppressed free.



TAKE ACTION: Now that you have made initial contact with your MP, consider how to follow this up. Schedule a date to send another email if you haven't had a response. Perhaps you could meet your MP, either in Westminster or at a constituency surgery. Please contact the IJM office if you would like to discuss this with a member of the team. Most importantly, consider how you can continue to support and love those on whose behalf you are speaking.

You may also want to think about other groups for whom you can speak, who you have never considered representing before. Do you know what injustices are faced by your neighbours, the members of your community or the members of your church? IJM's Community Assessment Toolkit helps you to identify the justice needs in your area and to act on behalf of the vulnerable and oppressed who are your neighbours. Download this tool from our website or, to order a copy or discuss the resource further, please contact the office.

Please use this section to note any thoughts and write your answers as you reflect on the discussion points above.

OTHER BIBLICAL ADVOCATES

JOSEPH

Read: Genesis 41:33-36

What he did: Gave political and economic advice to Pharaoh to ensure the protection and health of all the people; chose to use his influence for good and showed grace to his family.

What you can do: Consider whether your skills and gifts – and God's calling upon your life – could lead you to a position in public service.

ISAIAH

Read: Isaiah 1:15-17; Isaiah 58

What he did: Called out the social, environmental and political consequences of sin and advocated for a return to the ways God designed – through justice and protection of the vulnerable.

What you can do: Use (or ask your church leader to use) IJM's church sermons series to educate your congregation on issues of justice.

DANIEL

Read: Daniel 4:27

What he did: Grew close to King Nebuchadnezzar through his outstanding character and petitioned the king to renounce sin and protect the poor.

What you can do: Develop an ongoing relationship with your MP and encourage him/her to advocate for the poor across the world.

AMOS

Read: Amos 5

What he did: Renounced leaders for their extravagance and abuse of the poor, stood up for justice and called for a revival of good works.

What you can do: Check the CSR policies of your workplace, the shops where you buy clothes, or any other businesses you interact with. Consider ethical products where possible. If you are a shareholder, think about how you can use this position to influence policy.

JOHN THE BAPTIST

Read: Luke 3:12-14, 19

What he did: Instructed tax collectors and soldiers to do their job justly and not extort the poor, and spoke truth and rebuked Herod regarding his sin.

What you can do: Investigate corruption in banks and transparency in the money trail. Find out how the UK military is ordered to respond when faced with issues of injustice against the poor.

JAMES

Read: James 1:27; James 2:1-26

What he did: Upheld social justice as inherent to Christian faith and petitioned for equality, fairness and compassion for the poor amongst Christians.

What you can do: Campaign on behalf of the oppressed. Sign up for advocacy emails from IJM and investigate other ways to get involved at IJMUK.org/campaign.

SEE ALSO: Ezekiel, Habakkuk, Jonah, Obadiah and Zephaniah.

APPENDIX

INTRODUCTION

The following are some useful websites which might help you as you seek to research your MP:

- www.parliament.uk/mps-lords-and-offices/mps
- www.theyworkforyou.com
- www.publicwhip.org.uk

Go to IJMUK.org/campaign for further information, advice and resources.

SESSION 3: NATHAN – THE RISK-TAKER

The following are some resources if you are keen to explore a course on public speaking or campaigning:

- Parliament Outreach hold free sessions on how to influence public officials.
- The Sheila McKechnie Foundation run numerous training events for campaigners, which are heavily discounted for individuals: www.smk.org.uk/campaigner-events-workshops/.
- BOND run courses specifically tailored towards international development practitioners: www.bond.org.uk/learning-and-training.php?topic=Advocacy+and+Campaigning.
- www.campaigncentral.org.uk has resources and the opportunity to network with other campaigners. www.campaignstrategy.org, run by a former Deputy Executive and Programme Director of Greenpeace UK and Strategic Adviser to Greenpeace International, includes a number of campaign tips and suggestions.
- NCVO produces a variety of reports on campaigning which are free to download: <http://www.ncvo.org.uk/practical-support/campaigning>

SESSION 6: ESTHER – THE BOLD VOICE

The two primary ways to contact your MP are by email or post.

- **By email:** You can find your MP's email address on www.parliament.uk/mps-lords-and-offices/mps. Alternatively, email using the website www.writetothem.com. This will help you to track any response from your MP.
- **By post:** Handwritten letters are always a better way to get your MP's attention. All MP's share the same address: House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA. Check your MP's title on the MP list referenced above. Alternatively, you can write to them at their local constituency.

For further guidance on how to write to your MP, go to www.ijmuk.org/campaign/resources for email templates and more.



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INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE MISSION is a global organisation that protects the poor from violence throughout the developing world. IJM partners with local authorities to rescue victims of violence, bring criminals to justice, restore survivors and strengthen justice systems.

Inspired by God's call to love all people and to seek justice for the oppressed, IJM protects the poor from violence, without regard to race, religion or any other factor, and seeks to work alongside all people of good will.

Scriptural quotations are taken from the Holy Bible, New International Version.



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