



## Week 4. Fair Trade

- In a nutshell, describe what you think is fair trade?
- Read Psalm 22:23-31
- How does God look upon the poor & 'the afflicted' (those in [persistent] distress)?

This Psalm is one of Lament, whereby the Psalmist, in confronting the misery of the poor & afflicted is able to appreciate the bigger picture of God's care and provision & come to a place of praise rather than despair.

- How do you feel about seeing / hearing news of persistent poverty and deprivation?
- What does the Bible teach us about who is our neighbour and how he should be treated? (See Luke 10:25-37, Leviticus 19:13 & 25:14)
- What are our responsibilities towards those in need?
- Do you consider yourself to be rich?
- Have you ever felt guilty about buying or consuming something because you are aware of an injustice in the supply or production of the product?
- Injustice is a major theme throughout the Bible. How might Fair Trade principles make a difference in shaping our generosity towards people living in desperate circumstances?
- Do you regularly try and buy products that are ethically sourced or fairly traded?
- What else might we bear in mind when we are shopping and thinking about where our goods come from?
- Close in pray, remembering the over 800,000 farmers and their families that benefit from being in Fair trade Co-operatives around the world.

## Paths to Spiritual Growth

Fair Trade is an alternative approach to international trade that is built on a network of right relationships that respect human dignity, promote economic justice and cultivate global solidarity.

### Principles :

- \* Producers receive a fair wage (living wage)
- \* Producers have access to financial & technical assistance
- \* Sustainability is encouraged
- \* Working conditions are safe & healthy
- \* Equal employment opportunities are provided for all
- \* All aspects of trade & production are open to public accountability.

You are rich if you have enough to meet your most basic needs. You are rich if you have access to clean water, food, shelter, love, a roof over your head. You only have to count your blessings to see that you are richer than you think.

[Michelle Singletary]

LOOK FOR THE LABEL :



**Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have**

Hebrews 13:16

[www.fairtrade.org.uk](http://www.fairtrade.org.uk) / [www.fairtrade.net](http://www.fairtrade.net)

