Mini Scripture study (C):
Ephesians 6:12 (NRSV) and/or James 5:4 (NRSV)
Start by reading above passage(s), before you begin with study questions.
Take a moment to pray the “Prayer of Illumination”* – (repeat 3X)

Discussion questions:
• How does the wage gap impact us today? Racial wealth gap? Digital divide?
• How are families doing in rural, urban, and even the global economies?
• How are workers and other groups joining together to affect change and establish worker justice?

Additional material to better integrate this lesson.

a. Wage Theft/fraud – Unfortunately it is quite common for employers to steal wages from workers, that is to fail to pay employees all they earn. Up to two-thirds of workers in low-wage industries are victims of wage theft each week. Failure to pay for all hours worked or for overtime are just some examples of the ways employers steal wages. View and discuss the Warrior Met Coal Miners Strike

b. Work to end wage theft in your community. Learn more. Low-wage workers are high-value people, created in the image of God. All jobs must provide fair wages, benefits, and working conditions. Workers must be able to support themselves and their families and live with dignity the life of wholeness that God intends for all. God’s reign does not stop at the door to the workplace but extends to all aspects of life including our work lives. View and discuss Virtual Pray In to Protect Consumers

Action Item:
• What is God calling you and your faith community to do?
• What are your goals and timeline for completion?

Further Reading/Discussion:
• Coalition of Immokalee Workers
• Union efforts for Starbucks Workers

*Prayer of Illumination
Creator God,
We welcome you in this space
May your liberating spirit
Saturate and transform this physical/virtual space and enliven our Covenant
Open our hearts and minds to receive, reflect, and redress
Engage our senses
Engage our bodies
Engage our souls
We are yours.
Transform us together now and always
In community we prayer,
Amen.

With your generous support, The United Church of Christ, through the Neighbors in Need Special Mission Offering, helps its members live out their beliefs via acts of service.
Please donate today!

For more resources and to share and learn best practices for economic justice/change, join the UCC Economic Justice Champions, here.

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