

A CONVERSATION ABOUT RACE

GOSPEL IN CULTURE

Sermon Discussion Curriculum June 7, 2020

Special Note:

Typically, we tell D-Group Leaders that attending or viewing the Sunday service is not required before participating in the D-Group Discussion. However, this week is different. Our Sunday service is being broadcast to all campuses. Ben Parkinson (Teaching Pastor) along with Justin Bilson (Young Adult Pastor) and John and Cycle Blackmon (Elder, Benton Campus) will be talking about the racial and cultural issues that we have all faced over the past couple of weeks. We ask that you encourage your D-Groups to attend or watch the service online before having discussions. D-Group Leaders, we understand that this topic brings with it a variance of thoughts and opinions. It has brought tears, fears, and many cries out to God.

As you lead your discussion this week, do so with grace, mercy, and the love that Jesus shows each of us. Imagine him taking the hand of the weary and confused. Imagine him washing the feet of the broken and distraught. Allow your D-Group members to share from their own hearts and personal experiences. Be honest with each other, even if you don't agree. Pray for unity. If you have questions, don't hesitate to reach out to your D-Group Pastor.

Recommended Resources:

- Fellowship Position Paper: A Biblical View on Race <https://bit.ly/307Xn64>
- 2014 Gospel in Culture Sermon: Racism <https://bit.ly/3eVGrnz>
- Oneness Embraced: Reconciliation, the Kingdom, and How We are Stronger Together by Tony Evans
 - Amazon: <https://amzn.to/2MqiQ1U>
 - RightNow Media: <https://bit.ly/3curuHr>

Questions for Discussion:

- 1) What was presented by Ben, Justin, John, and Cycle that stood out to you the most?
- 2) What was presented that is the hardest for you to hear or believe?
- 3) How do you feel about what was presented?
- 4) Share with your D-Group any personal experiences or stories you have as it relates to what was presented.
- 5) Based on what is happening in our culture and how the Bible encourages us to respond, what can you do personally to actively live out and reflect the Kingdom of God?
- 6) Together, pray for healing in your city, state, and country.

Bonus:

This will bless your soul!

The Arkansas Blessing: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3_QICEWlwPw

We are praying for you this week!