

Thank you for being a part of our learning series. We will build a productive faith-based framework to discuss race and work toward racial equity.

This is designed as a 5 part series, each session is an hour. Prior to the session, participants are asked to read or watch the material, in order to have meaningful and genuine conversations. Please come with your thoughts and questions.

Session 1:

1. A short reading from Austin Channing Brown's **I'm Still Here: Black Dignity in a World Made for Whiteness** (<https://files.constantcontact.com/121f4632801/9abe4bc2-c69f-4443-bf23-dd756doada18.pdf>)
2. A brief video interview with Ijeoma Oluo, author of **So You Want to Talk About Race?** (<http://www.cc.com/video-clips/jrlbiy/the-opposition-with-jordan-klepper-ijeoma-oluo---you-can-t-win--a-conversation-about-race>)
3. The one minute video taken by Christian Cooper in Central Park on Memorial Day 2020, when a woman called the police to report him. (<https://www.nytimes.com/video/us/100000007159234/amy-cooper-dog-central-park-police-video.html>)

Session 2:

1. A famous essay called "White Privilege: Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack," by Peggy McIntosh. The key section is a list of 50 "daily effects of white privilege," so please do read that (the rest of the essay is excellent too) (<https://www.racialequitytools.org/resourcefiles/mcintosh.pdf>)
2. A brief interview with historian Ibram X. Kendi on his National Book Award winning book, "Stamped From the Beginning: The Definitive History of Racist Ideas in America." (I HIGHLY recommend the book.) (Watch now: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IUwO2KvZVKw>)
3. A two minute trailer for a powerful documentary: "White Savior: Racism in the American Church" (Watch now: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2FWenQCC4-s>)

Session 3:

We will be looking in a bit of detail at some infamous passages from Scripture that were used by American slaveholders and others to justify separation of the races and/or the institution of slavery.

1. To get a bit of a grounding, start with this brief article from National Public Radio: <https://www.npr.org/2020/07/01/883115867/white-supremacist-ideas-have-historical-roots-in-u-s-christianity>
2. Then have a look at this resource from a United Methodist congregation. (I apologize that the formatting is a little awkward; the information is very helpful.) <http://www.calvarylovesall.com/TheBibleampRacism>
3. Next, I've attached the passages (<https://files.constantcontact.com/121f4632801/74a1792b-2a34-4958-b222-9b07e875320e.pdf>) that we will look at together tonight
4. And finally, just for your interest: here is an interesting article on a famous “white” picture of Jesus from the mid twentieth century and how folks are thinking about it now. <https://www.washingtonpost.com/religion/2020/06/25/how-an-iconic-painting-jesus-white-man-was-distributed-around-world/>

Session 4:

1. This is a very quick round-up of quotations from Scripture that engage race/racism: <https://www.womansday.com/life/g32780845/bible-verses-about-race-and-racisms/>
2. A thoughtful NPR story about the challenge of grappling with racism: <https://www.npr.org/2020/06/06/871014393/evangelical-christians-grapple-with-racism-as-sin>
3. A short video about the “imago Dei” (image of God) from an Evangelical church in Texas. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IIxAueOQ8ks>
4. A few passages from Scripture. Several point to **complexity** rather than any “simple” view on race. <https://files.constantcontact.com/121f4632801/d4501323-e9ab-4129-97c3-85b2c42cc2e8.pdf>

Session 5:

Looking forward to our final session of this study series. Here are a two documents to read if you have time and the same Bible passages from last week.

1. White Anti-Racism: Living the Legacy: <https://www.tolerance.org/professional-development/white-antiracism-living-the-legacy>
2. How to be anti-racist: Speak out in your own circles: <https://www.cnn.com/2020/06/04/health/how-to-be-an-anti-racist-wellness/index.html>
3. Passages from Scripture. <https://files.constantcontact.com/121f4632801/d4501323-e9ab-4129-97c3-85b2c42cc2e8.pdf>

This study was put together by Rev. Maxwell Grant, Senior Minister at the Second Congregational Church in Greenwich, CT. Their website is <https://www.2cc.org/>

Rev. Maxwell Grant has been the Senior Minister at Second Congregational Church since 2012. Originally from Brooklyn, NY, he has also served as School Minister at Collegiate School in Manhattan, Chaplain for Pediatrics and Obstetrics at Yale New Haven Hospital, and Pastor of Community Church of the Pelhams in Pelham, NY. He is a graduate of Yale University, the University of Pennsylvania, Yale Divinity School (where he earned the Mersick Prize in Preaching), and the University of St. Andrews (Scotland), where he is currently pursuing a PhD in Practical Theology. He serves on the Board of Directors for the Connecticut Conference of the United Church of Christ, the Committee on Ministry for the Fairfield West Association of the UCC (United Church of Christ), and Day 1 Radio, a Christian preaching ministry.

Max and his wife, Liz Perry, an independent school administrator, have two daughters and a Cardigan Welsh Corgi.