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RACE, GOD + *JUSTICE*

CONVERSATION GUIDE

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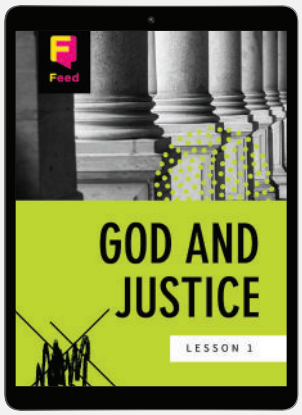
87% of Gen Z in the U.S. report being concerned about racial inequality (Vision Critical). Equality continues to emerge as the key issue for this generation - and students are watching to see how the Church will respond. While we might not all agree on every aspect of the issue, we share a common pursuit of loving our neighbor as we follow Jesus. We pray that you will use the following tools to engage students in healthy dialogue and education about race and justice. If used in a group setting, remember to emphasize listening and empathy.

INCLUDED IN THIS RESOURCE

CONVERSATION QUESTIONS

PRAYER PROMPTS

RESOURCES



LOOKING FOR MORE?

Check out our God and Justice Small Group Series

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QUESTIONS TO ASK:

Have you ever witnessed someone being treated unfairly because of their racial or ethnic identity? If so, how did you respond? How did it make you feel?

Have you noticed any times in your life you have stereotyped or discriminated against others because of their race?

Think of your five closest friends. How many of them are a different ethnicity than you?

In what ways does your own race and upbringing impact your personal life?

What aspect of your racial or ethnic identity makes you the proudest?

Why is it important for white people to talk to one another about racial inequality and unearned privilege?

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QUESTIONS TO ASK:

What types of unfairness or bias do you see in your everyday life beyond race and ethnicity? How might we be discriminating against others in ways without realizing it?

How do you think Jesus would want us to respond to current racial issues?

How does recognizing that each of us is made in God's image impact your view of how you treat others?

HOW DO YOU THINK THE CHURCH SHOULD RESPOND TO ISSUES OF RACIAL RECONCILIATION?

How would you complete the statement: The church reflects God's justice when it _____.

Who are you most afraid of having conversations about race with? Do you have any idea why?

How can you use your sphere of influence to move toward kingdom-minded change and reflect the character of God?

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PRAYER PROMPTS

- Pray for **our legal and justice system** - that they would be men and women with integrity, upholding the laws of the land and our commitment as a country to be "one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all"

- Pray for **The Church** - that she would not be chaotic nor frenzied in her response to injustices occurring in our country and in each state. That she would remember her identity and love well.

  - That God would be glorified through the church and its people by us reflecting the truth of the Gospel and the standards of Grace to everyone.
  - Unity in the body (Psalm 133:1)
  - That diversity in the church would be welcomed, encouraged and championed - resulting in worship of every tribe, nation and tongue

- Pray **against ignorant, apathetic, and calloused hearts** - Ask God to give us hearts of flesh and to help us be empathetic and compassionate to those we know are suffering

- Pray **against hostility, violence, and anger** - that the sins of man would have no hold over our nation and this generation.

- Pray for the **families that have lost their loved ones** during this time

- Pray for the family of **George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, and others** who have been tragically affected, specifically and by name.

- Pray for **Police Officers** - for those wrongly accused to be safe and stable. For those that are guilty, that the Lord would have mercy on them and convict them of any wrongdoing.

- Pray for **God's love to abound in us** by the knowledge of God, resulting in righteousness in our lives.

- That the **Word will increase its influence** (effectiveness) in the city as God releases His power on it. (2 Thes. 3:1-5)

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RESOURCES TO EXPLORE

ARTICLES

These articles were collected by our partner Axis

- Talking with Your Children About Protests and Racism
- A Collection of Resources for Teaching Social Justice
- How White Parents Can Talk to Their Kids About Race
- Racism and Violence: How to Help Kids Handle the News
- It's Never Too Early to Talk About Race

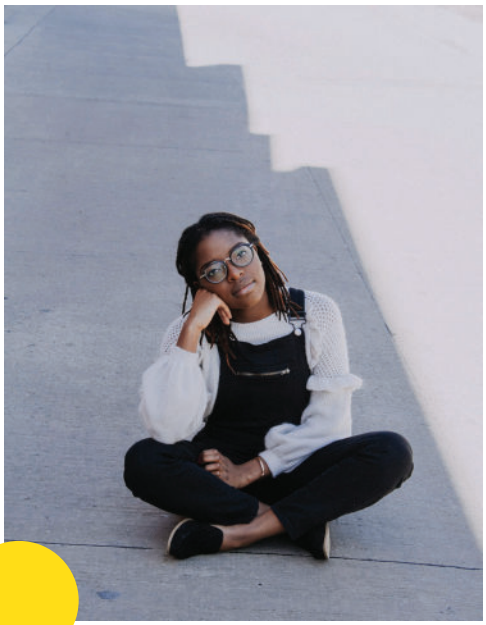
VIDEO

- A United States history on racial injustice from Phil Vischer

VIEW HERE

SMALL GROUP SERIES

Check out our *God and Justice* Small Group Series



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