



Week 10: From Exclusion to Inclusion

FACILITATOR'S NOTE:

- ✓ Start your group discussion with the “Check-in” question to help your members reflect back on their week and follow up on last week’s application challenge.
- ✓ Review the “Big Idea” to help you gain clarity around the heart of this week’s message and focus your group’s discussion towards a clear direction.
- ✓ Read this week’s scripture passages together and guide your group through the “Discuss” questions to initiate meaningful dialogue around key concepts or insights from this week’s message.
- ✓ Move your group discussion to a deeper level by leading them through questions in “Apply”. Use discernment to customize these application questions to meet the needs & dynamics of your group.
NOTE: You do not have to cover all the questions provided in “Apply”.
- ✓ Connect with God together as a group through this week’s “prayer practice”, which can be in the form of a prayer exercise or some guidance on what to pray for in relation to the message or application.

UPDATED NOTES TO FACILITATORS RE: COVID-19

During this unprecedented time of the COVID-19 pandemic, the primary focus of your group should shift to the immediate needs and mental health of your members. We are adopting a **C.P.R.** approach during this season, which stands for the following:

- **Care** refers to the love and support that we offer in our groups, from helping one another with tangible needs, rejoicing in celebrations together, and supporting personal struggles with encouragement and empathy
- **Prayer** refers to offering our gratitude and praise to God, bringing our worries to Him, and praying for our community and world
- **Remembering** refers to reflecting on God for who He is, what He has personally done in our lives, and what He is capable of doing

DQs will continue to be provided for our sermon series, but will be shortened and simplified since your group’s attention and time should be devoted more towards CPR. For more resources on care and prayer, check out the Slack channels.

LEADERS' NOTE

This sermon topic and set of discussion questions are best suited over the span of **two or more group meetings**. It's up to you when you want to revisit this topic for your second meeting, whether it's next week, or in the summer. With such an important topic, give it the time and space that it deserves.

Perhaps you want to assign Application Question #4 after Session 1 as a takeaway activity, and in a few weeks, do Session 2 with a follow-up to give members an opportunity to share what they learned.

GET SET

Look at the following infographic: **Where do you see yourself and why?**



For parents, where do you see yourself in this graphic?

The graphic is set against an orange background with yellow starburst accents. It is divided into two columns by a vertical teal line. The left column is titled 'INCLUSIVE PARENTS' and the right column is titled 'ANTI-RACIST PARENTS'. Both titles are in white, bold, uppercase letters on a dark orange banner. Below each title is a white box containing a bulleted list of practices. At the bottom center, a teal semi-circle contains the text '@curious.parenting' in white.

INCLUSIVE PARENTS	ANTI-RACIST PARENTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Teach their kids that people matter more than skin color• Make sure their child's library is racially diverse• Share movies and shows featuring people of color with their kids• Talk about privilege and what it means	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Teach their kids that skin color deeply affects how people view us• Intentionally include books that go beyond slavery + the civil rights movement• Use media to point out examples of racism + stereotypes• Give children contextual examples of their privilege, like being able to shop without being followed

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BIG IDEA

Through God designing and creating us, and through the work of Jesus on the cross, we have the makings of the reconciliation of all mankind. Racism flies in the face of how God made us, and how He has healed us in our differences.

DISCUSS

Read Revelation 5:9-10.

1. What new song did you learn when you became a Christian? How does worshipping God bring people together?
2. "Diversity is the range of human differences, including but not limited to race, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, social class, physical ability or attributes, religious or ethical values system, national origin, and political beliefs" How have you benefited from being a member of a diverse church?

APPLY
 How do we respond to God's teaching in meaningful ways? What might God ask of us in mind, spirit, or actions?

1. Who do you know that has suffered because of someone's racist beliefs? Were you able to identify why someone would think that way, or why they would treat someone like that?
2. Has there ever been a time when you have advocated on behalf of someone who was being mistreated based on ethnicity, skin colour, or other forms of identification? What compelled you to speak up?
3. Pastor Brian shared in his message that the source of racism and prejudice are from sin within our hearts - sin that distorts our perceptions of ourselves and others, and flows outward to how we behave. Where do you struggle with this kind of sin? What are some beliefs that you might hold that are distorted?
4. Pastor Brian also talked about how difficult it can be to see our sin in our thinking - it takes great self-awareness and humility. To whom might you ask the question, "As someone who knows me, what are some areas where you've observed that I have shown racism or prejudice?" Ask them to prayerfully consider this and to get back to you after a period of time. **Note:** This task is not easy, and requires discernment on who to choose to ask - safe people of character. They may be individuals in your lifegroup, if you are comfortable. Check out [this resource](#) on how to tell if someone is a "Safe Person."
5. Scan the list of Additional Resources at the bottom. Which resources do you want to look at as a group? Eg. what about hosting a [physically-distanced backyard viewing party](#) to watch some of the videos/films?

PRAYER PRACTICE (15 minutes)

Choral Prayer (in unison) - *Present this prayer on the screen or in the chat box:*

Correct my vision, Lord.
 Use your Word to change the way I see you, the way I see myself,
 and the way I see others.
 Where there has been racism and prejudice in my own heart, forgive me.
 Where I see hatred in others, let me sow love.
 Where there is conflict, let me sow peace.
 Where there is injustice, let me sow truth and advocacy.
 And where there is confusion and loss of hope, let me speak the truth of you,
 my Lord and Savior, Jesus.

What is your next step in your journey to become more anti-racist? How can your group pray for you specifically?

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Books:
[Generous Justice, by Timothy Keller](#)
[The Heart of Racial Justice, by Brenda Salter Mcneil](#)
[Roadmap to Reconciliation, by Brenda Salter Mcneil](#)
[Just Mercy, by Bryan Stevenson](#) (Film version also available)

Videos:

[Holy Post - Race in America \(Phil Vischer\)](#) (18 min.)

[Something Happened in Our Town \(Read Aloud for Kids\)](#)

[How to Talk to Kids About Race](#)

[Say Something \(Read Aloud for Kids\) by Peter H. Reynolds](#)

Tests:

[Project Implicit \(Harvard University\)](#) Choose a specific type of bias to test