

TALK IT OVER

Breaking The Ice. Spend some time connecting with each other.

- Briefly share how the last week has gone for you and where have you seen God at work in your life or the lives of others this past week?
- As an illustration idea, a few city group attenders take off your one of your shoes. Now place them in the center of the room, talk about the importance of putting yourselves in the shoes of those who are different than you.

Key Scriptures: *A fool does not delight in understanding, But only in revealing his own mind. Proverbs 18:2*

This you know, my beloved brethren. But everyone must be quick to hear, slow to speak and slow to anger; ²⁰for the anger of man does not achieve the righteousness of God. James 1:19-20

Additional Scriptures: *1 Peter 2:9, Revelation 7:9-17*

Big Idea of the Message: Rather than burrowing yourself further into your opinions (or the opinions of people who agree with you) take time to listen to others about racism, discrimination, and reconciliation.

Message Study: *The following questions will help you work through the passage.*

- To a foolish person, what is more important than gaining understanding – 18:2? Give examples that illustrate this kind of person.
- Brainstorm a list of reasons as to “why” Christians should do the specific things mentioned in vs.19, reasons other than the one specifically mentioned in vs.20.
- Of the three matters named in vs.19, which would you say you’re best at? Worst at? Why?

Start Talking.

- What is one thing that stood out to you from this week’s message?
- Has someone here ever experienced racism or discrimination? What happened?

Start Thinking.

- What kind of conversations do you think that Christians need to have that will lead to racial reconciliation and encouragement?
- Why is it easier to talk about our opinions rather than listening to the experiences of others?

Start Sharing.

- Over this next week, how can you listen more, and talk less, about race?
- How will you obey the message as the people of God (Movement City Group)?

Start Doing.

- **Challenge:** Encourage others in your group to listen to those who are different than them. Rather than spending time thinking about what to say next, spend time trying to enter their world.
- **Action:** Think of two ways that you will seek to gain an understanding of another’s experience this week.

Because of who I am in Christ, I will...in my pursuit of racial reconciliation.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Further Readings:

- <https://www.pewsocialtrends.org/2019/04/09/race-in-america-2019/>
- <http://www.christianitytoday.com/ct/2016/may/my-top-5-books-on-black-experience-in-america.html>
- <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/podcasts/tgc-podcast/what-about-the-minority-experience-in-america-do-whites-often-miss/>

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