

## *This Is Our City*

### Racial Reconciliation ~ Pastor Dre

## 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?
- In this fallen world, dissension and disunity are all around but what makes disunity in the church so particularly painful?

**Key Scriptures:** *9 But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; 1 Peter 2:9*

*9 After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. 10 And they cried out in a loud voice: "Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb." Revelation 7:9-17*

**Big Idea of the Message:** Salvation is for all people, regardless of nationality, race, or economic status. The local church should reflect this truth.

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

- The chosen race is not a racial one.
- How does understanding your identity (who you are) help you know what you should be doing (why am I here)?
- "If we as a body of Christ are supposed to reflect the Kingdom of Heaven, and we're not seeking diversity, have we missed the message of Revelation 7?"
- What does heaven look like, per this text?

### Start Talking.

- What is one thing that stood out to you from this week's message?
- Do you find it difficult and/or scary to enter into the conversation about diversity and racial issues? If so why or why not?
- How can being "colorblind" sometimes hurt others?

### Start Thinking.

- What kind of conversations do you think that Christians need to have that will lead to racial reconciliation and encouragement?
- Why do you think the desire for greater diversity within the church can seem daunting? How might the vision at the beginning of the chapter encourage your faith for the future? Why do you think Sunday morning is one of the most separated hours of the week?
- What can our church and each Movement City Group do to promote diversity?

### Start Sharing.

- Sin corrupts and divides and, because we continue to wrestle with sin, our differences can be the catalyst for that divide. How have you seen this in your own life?
- What does this statement mean to you: "True unity is found first through being reconciled to God and then to each other"?
- How will you obey the message as the people of God (Movement City Group)?

### Start Doing.

- **Challenge:** When we know our identity in Christ, we can make God's identity known to our world. We are to be known as God's people so we can making God's virtues, his excellencies, and his goodness known in our world. Live your life in such a way that your life declares the greatness of God every hour of every day!
- **Action:** Think of three ways that you will declare God's praises or excellencies this week because of who you are in Christ.

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

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

**Don't Let The Conversation Stop Here. Keep Talking It Over Online.**

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