

Racism Still Exists



Exodus 1:1 – 14

Genesis 46:31 – 34

Then Joseph said to his brothers and to his father's household, "I will go up and speak to Pharaoh and will say to him, 'My brothers and my father's household, who were living in the land of Canaan, have come to me. The men are shepherds; they tend livestock, and they have brought along their flocks and herds and everything they own.' When Pharaoh calls you in and asks, 'What is your occupation?' you should answer, 'Your servants have tended livestock from our boyhood on, just as our fathers did.' Then you will be allowed to settle in the region of Goshen, for all shepherds are detestable to the Egyptians."

Exodus 1:1 – 5

These are the names of the sons of Israel who went to Egypt with Jacob, each with his family: Reuben, Simeon, Levi and Judah; Issachar, Zebulun and Benjamin; Dan and Naphtali; Gad and Asher. The descendants of Jacob numbered seventy in all; Joseph was already in Egypt.

Exodus 1:6 – 10

Now Joseph and all his brothers and all that generation died, but the Israelites were exceedingly fruitful; they multiplied greatly, increased in numbers and became so numerous that the land was filled with them.

Then a new king, to whom Joseph meant nothing, came to power in Egypt. “Look,” he said to his people, “the Israelites have become far too numerous for us. Come, we must deal shrewdly with them or they will become even more numerous and, if war breaks out, will join our enemies, fight against us and leave the country.”

Exodus 1:11 – 14

So they put slave masters over them to oppress them with forced labor, and they built Pithom and Rameses as store cities for Pharaoh. But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread; so the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites and worked them ruthlessly. They made their lives bitter with harsh labor in brick and mortar and with all kinds of work in the fields; in all their harsh labor the Egyptians worked them ruthlessly.

My Story



To our fellow A.A. pastors and the A.A. community

We condemn the racist acts that continue to happen today.

We repent of our own racism and fear, both conscious and unconscious. We reject our reluctance to be agents of healing and reconciliation in our churches, in our region and in our nation.

We resolve to preach, teach and advocate against the sins of racism.

Racism still exists.

Racism

Definition – A prejudice against and hostility toward people of another race, ethnicity or culture.

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May 2017 Harvard Study on how resume “whitening” helps minority students get jobs.

Racism Still Exists

University of Michigan Law School 2012 study showed that Federal prosecutors are almost twice as likely to file charges carrying mandatory minimum sentences for African Americans than whites accused of the same crimes.

Appellate Court Justice Carl Anthony Walker



Racism

Definition – A prejudice against and hostility toward people of another race, ethnicity or culture.

- Racism exists today
- **Power and privilege based on race exists today**

Exodus 2:1 – 10

- The power and privilege of the Egyptian daughter of Pharaoh allowed her to disobey her father's command to kill all the male children born to the Jews and adopt Moses as her son.
- Moses was a Jew adopted into a powerful and privileged Egyptian family. He lived like a prince with power and privilege while his sister, brother and fellow Jews lived under oppression.

Privilege does not mean:

- Those who have it have never suffered in this life.
- Those who have it have not worked hard to reach their accomplishments.

Privilege does mean:

- You are a member of the dominate culture and you have more power and privilege than those who don't.

Amy Cooper in Central Park



Jack Salzwedel CEO – American Family Insurance



"I am privileged. I have a voice. I want to use it for good. What happens in places like Minneapolis, NYC, and GA is simply wrong. I hear the concern, anger, disillusionment from leaders of all colors. Here is a question: Shouldn't we all be angry?"

Jack Salzwedel CEO – American Family Insurance



"It's time to do something. It's just time. Identifying and solving the root causes of the suffering caused by these societal issues is complex...and I believe it requires people of privilege—white people—to stand up for and stand with our communities like never before. I believe businesses must stand up too!"

So what do you do with privilege?

- Admit you have it.
- Listen to people speak about their experiences with unfair treatment.
- Use your power to help alleviate injustice and oppression when you see it.

So what do you do with privilege?

Psalms 82:2 – 4

**How long will you defend the unjust and show
partiality to the wicked.**

**Defend the weak and the fatherless; uphold the cause
of the poor and the oppressed.**

Rescue the weak and the needy;

Deliver them from the hand of the wicked.

Phyl Porter



- Racism exists today
- Power and privilege based on race exists today
- **Racism negatively impacts everyone**

Racism Negatively Impacts Everyone

- Moses responded to the oppression he saw in Egypt by killing an Egyptian for beating a Jew. (Ex. 2:11 – 12)
- The looting we see across the country now could be seen as a legitimate way to retaliate for the injustice done to George Floyd like throwing British tea in the Boston Harbor in 1773 in protest of “taxation without representation” in Parliament in the early stages of the American Revolution.

Racism Negatively Impacts Everyone

- Of course, this will get us nowhere. Looting leads to escalation of police activity which is caught on video with leads to more unrest.
- You get the picture. Violence begets violence... Not Racial Reconciliation.

- Racism exists today
- Power and privilege based on race exists today
- Racism negatively impacts everyone
- **Jesus came to reconcile the races.**

Jesus came to reconcile the races

Ephesians 3:6

This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus.

Jesus came to reconcile the races

Ephesians 2:14 – 15

For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, by setting aside the law with its commands and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new humanity out of the two, thus making peace...

Christians remain*:

- People of faith
- People who have been called to love one another
- People who see each other as made in the image of God

*From Tom De Vries, President of the Global Leadership Network

Christians remain*:

- People who recognize and call out injustice.
- People who are blessed as peacemakers.

*From Tom De Vries, President of the Global Leadership Network