



# Jesus says

“God’s Intercultural Vision”

# Luke 4:18,19

*The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent Me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.*



# Luke 4:20,21

*And He rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on Him. And He began to say to them, “Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”*



# Luke 10:25-28

*And behold, a lawyer stood up to put him to the test, saying, “Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?” He said to him, “What is written in the Law? How do you read it?”*



# Luke 10:25-28

*And he answered, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and your neighbour as yourself.” And He said to him, “You have answered correctly; do this, and you will live.”*



# Luke 10:29

*But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, “And who is my neighbour?”*

*(Jesus proceeds to tell the story of ‘the Good Samaritan’)*



# John 4:3,4

*Jesus left Judea and departed again for Galilee. And He had to pass through Samaria.*

*(the woman at the well; men of Sychar; many believed; stayed 2 days...)*



# Ephesians 2:13-16

*But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ. 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 in His flesh the law...*





# Ephesians 2:13-16

*...His purpose was to create in Himself one new humanity out of the two, thus making peace, and in one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which He put to death their hostility.*



# God's Intercultural Vision

a new community in which women & men of all ages, of all racial, cultural and social origins, find their oneness in Christ...our inclusion into Christ & His Church does not obliterate our ethnicity any more than it does our masculinity or femininity. Rather, while our racial, social and sexual distinctions remain, they no longer divide us. They have been transcended in the unity of God's family

# Galatians 3:28,29

*There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.*





# God's Intercultural Vision:

- the Father planned it
- Jesus died for it
- the Spirit enables it
- Scripture commands it
- the world needs it
- the Church is to model it

# James 2:1,8,9

*My brothers, show no partiality as you hold the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory.*

*If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, “You shall love your neighbour as yourself,” you are doing well. But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors.*





# Principles Shaping Our Value of All People

- every person bears the image of God (Gen 1:26)
- the shared oneness of humanity (Acts 17:26)
- the worth and dignity of the individual (Matt. 12:12)
- the united call to love neighbour (Matt. 22:36-40)
- the impartiality of God re: persons (Acts 10:34,35)
- our transcendent unity in Jesus Christ (Gal. 3:28)

# Practical Steps We Can Take Toward Racial Unity



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1. humbly pray for God to search our hearts and repent



# Psalm 139:23,24

*Search me, God, and know my heart;  
test me and know my anxious thoughts.  
See if there is any offensive way in me,  
and lead me in the way everlasting.*



# Practical Steps We Can Take Toward Racial Unity

1. humbly pray for God to search our hearts and repent

2. intentionally listen and learn about racial discrimination

# Proverbs 18:2,13

*A fool takes no pleasure in understanding,  
but only in expressing his opinion.*

*To answer before listening — that is folly  
and shame.*





“People fail to get along  
b/c they fear each  
other; they fear each  
other b/c they don't  
know each other; they  
don't know each other  
b/c they have not  
communicated with  
each other.”

— Martin Luther King, Jr.

# Practical Steps We Can Take Toward Racial Unity

1. humbly pray for God to search our hearts and repent

2. intentionally listen and learn about racial discrimination

3. proactively be “thermostats” of racial unity & justice

# Isaiah 1:16,17a

*Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean;  
remove the evil of your deeds from before  
My eyes; cease to do evil, learn to do good;  
seek justice, correct oppression...*



# Micah 6:8

*He has told you, O man, what is good;  
and what does the Lord require of you but  
to do justice, and to love kindness, and  
to walk humbly with your God?*



# Our Role as Christ-Followers



we personally model & collectively participate in God's Kingdom Vision: living w/o prejudice, working for justice & transforming our structures that maintain racial discrimination

New Heaven  
&  
New Earth





“The ultimate tragedy is not the oppression and cruelty by the bad people but the silence over that by the good people.”

— Martin Luther King, Jr.

# Practical Steps We Can Take Toward Racial Unity

1. humbly pray for God to search our hearts & repent

2. intentionally listen & learn about racial discrimination

3. proactively be “thermostats” of racial unity & justice

4. personally initiate & celebrate intercultural relationships

# John 15:12

NRSV

*This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.*



# Revelation 7:9,10

NIV

*After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, “Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!”*





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