



## **Shelby Christian Church**

CORE 52: LIVING IT- RACISM \* ACTS 17:26, JONAH 1:1-3, 3:1-5, 4:1-11,  
ISAIAH 49:6, EPHESIANS 2:13-14, REVELATION 7:9-10 \* 8/10/2025

**What are some examples that come to mind from the New Testament of God breaking down racist barriers in the existing culture? What are some modern examples you've seen of the Church working to fight racism in our culture for the sake of the Gospel?**

**HAVE A VOLUNTEER READ ACTS 17:26**

**According to this verse, from whom did God make all the nations? Why is it significant that all nations came from “one man”? How does this verse challenge or affirm ideas about race, ethnicity, and equality? In what ways can this verse guide how we think about nationalism, racism, or cultural pride? What might Paul be communicating to the Athenians about their place in God's plan?**

**HAVE A VOLUNTEER TO READ JONAH 1:1-3, 3:1-5, 4:1-11**

**Why do you think Jonah chose to run from God's call? What are some “Tarshishes” in our lives—places or ways we try to avoid God's calling? Why is it often easier to run from God than to trust and obey Him? In what ways are we tempted to avoid sharing God's message with people we think won't respond?**

**What can we learn from the Ninevites about responding to conviction or correction? How does Jonah react to Nineveh's repentance and God's mercy?**

**What does Jonah reveal about his motives for running away earlier? How does God respond to Jonah's anger? How does God's response to Jonah teach us about racism?**

**HAVE A VOLUNTEER READ ISAIAH 49:6**

**Who is speaking in this verse, and who is being addressed? What was the initial mission mentioned for the servant? Why does God say the original mission “is too small a thing”? How does this verse connect to the broader theme of salvation for all nations? How does this verse challenge narrow or exclusive views of God's plan for all mankind?**

**HAVE A VOLUNTEER READ EPHESIANS 2:13-14**

**Who is Paul addressing in this passage? What does it mean that those “once were far away” have been “brought near”? How does Christ bring peace between these two groups? Why was there a “wall of hostility” between them? What does this passage reveal about the purpose of Jesus' sacrifice? How does this unity in Christ challenge social, ethnic, or cultural divisions today?**

HAVE A VOLUNTEER READ REVELATION 7:9-10

**Who is described in this vision? What is significant about the diversity of the people in the crowd? What are the people wearing and holding? What might these symbolize? How does this vision reflect God's plan for salvation? What role does the Lamb play in this scene?**

## **APPLICATION**

**Did you grow up in a family or community that treated all people the same or was there some level of racism, overt or subtle? These could have been jokes, comments, phrases, what a particular group of people was called, etc.**

**In your experience, why is racism so difficult to overcome? What actions or attitudes have you personally implemented to reduce it in your own life?**

**What could your church do (or what could you do in your church) to make others ethnic, economic, cultural, and political groups feel more included?**

**Share the name of specific person who is different than you who you could escort to church to make sure they feel included when they came.**

## **PRAYER**