

Faith and Racial Healing

Module 2: Embracing Truth, Justice and Restoration

This module is the second of three classes about Faith and Race. In the first module, we studied the books White Fragility and I'm Still here, learning about the structure of racial inequity in the United States. This module examines in more depth the history of racial injustice. Except for the first session, which will be about 90 minutes, the sessions run about 2 ¼ hours.

Books

- 40 Days of Prayer
- Post Traumatic Slave Syndrome by Dr. Joy DeGruy
- The Color of Compromise by Jemar Tisby

Overview of Sessions

Getting to Know You: this pre-session will occur on the first day the class meets. It is an opportunity to begin to get to know the other participants

Session 1: The Big Picture of Racial Injustice — This session looks at the history of racial injustice in the United States from a broad perspective. Participants put together a timeline that spans from the genocide of Native Americans through the Immigration Act of 1990. Though sessions 2-8 will focus mostly on racism as it relates to African Americans and white people, the same patterns of oppression manifest themselves over and over again, affecting other minority groups in similar ways. Session 1 seeks to introduce participants to some of those patterns, so that we can stop making the same mistakes and work together to end racialized oppression in all of its forms.

Session 2: The Middle Passage — This session revisits the horrors of the Middle Passage.

Session 3: Recovering the Voices of the Enslaved — During this session, Participants work in small groups as they read and discuss the firsthand accounts of the enslaved, while learning from their faith, strength, and resilience.

Session 4: From Convict Leasing to Mass Incarceration—This session traces the history of the mass incarceration, helping participants better understand the origins of the problem, so that they can better advocate for a justice system that is truly just.

Session 5: Confessing our History of Lynching — This session educates participants about lynchings and terrorism inflicted upon black communities.

Session 6: Civil Rights and the Struggle for Equal Education: Participants discuss how white resistance during school integration affected — and continues to affect — the education of our nation's children.

Session 7: The True Theology of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.: The Civil Rights Movement arose out of the prophetic tradition found in Scripture. During this session, participants explore the radical and challenging theology of Dr. King.

Session 8: Seeking Restoration (guest speaker and next steps): This session guides participants in discerning how they feel called to respond to current day racial injustice. Your group will invite a guest speaker from your local community, an experience that will help the group brainstorm ideas for taking action.