

## GOSPEL + RACE RESOURCES FOR FAMILIES

My ministry gives me the opportunity to come alongside our parents and missional communities to help equip our next generation. I am reminded of what Moses knew so well (Deut. 6:4-9), we must continue to tell the glory of God to our children, because the gospel changes everything! **Our front lines are our homes.** So how do we disciple the next generation to see and love *all* people as beautiful image bearers of God? How do we “teach it diligently to our children?”

### WHY SHOULD WE ENGAGE KIDS ABOUT RACISM?

Kids are intuitive and know when big events are unfolding, even if they’re not watching it on the news or social media. They have a way of picking up our emotions and our cues, they hear little snippets between adults and they interact with their peers who may know way more of what is going on than you want them to know, all while they are trying to piece things together in their developing minds. This is a great opportunity for parents to engage their kids and help them process what they’re hearing, feeling and experiencing in a way that makes much of Jesus. Instead of the world creating the script, we can allow the gospel to inform their world view.

How we engage the conversation about racism informs their view of God. What is their understanding of how God created people? What is their understanding of sin and this broken world? How does Jesus conquer sin, including racism? Does the gospel inform me on how to respond to racism?

Our desire is to create environments in our homes for the Holy Spirit to work in the lives of our kids. Engaging the topic of racism creates an environment for the Holy Spirit to speak about who God is, what He has done and who we are. Out of these conversations, we then can talk about how we are to live and help love our neighbor.

### HOW DO WE ENGAGE KIDS ABOUT RACISM?

As parents, you know your kids the most and what is appropriate for them. Take in account their own maturity and their age as you navigate how to engage your kids, but don’t shy away from the conversation all together. This is an opportunity to help kids better understand God’s design and to speak gospel truth into this world. We have provided some resources for you to help think through how to create those gospel- centered environments in your homes.

## *Christian Resources*

### Blogs for Parents:

- [How to Talk About Race with Your Kids](#) (*Christianity Today*, Michelle Reyes)
- [How to Talk with Your Kids About Racial Differences](#) (*Focus on the Family*, Lainna Callentine)

### Books for Kids:

- [God Made Me AND You](#) (*New Growth Press*, Shai Linne)
- [God's Very Good Idea – Tales That Tell the Truth](#) (*The Good Book Company*, Trillia Newbell)
- [ColorFull: Celebrating the Colors God Gave Us](#) (*B&H Kids*, Dorena Williamson)

#### Older Elementary Kids and Students:

For our elementary and up kids, [The Gospel in Color](#) is a fantastic resource through Portal Books. With the high demand, they are making it available through download. In conjunction with the book, *Gospel Centered Family* has created a 4-week study using this resource:

- [Week 1: The Multi-Ethnic People of God](#)
- [Week 2: Our Sin Against One Another](#)
- [Week 3: The Good News of Jesus](#)
- [Week 4: What is Reconciliation](#)

#### MOVING FORWARD

Remember that some of the best ways we can serve our kids is to engage ourselves. What are you feeling? What do you need to confess? How do you need to see the gospel more so that you can love others well? The more we grow the more we can pass on to our kids. Helping our kids understand the destructive behavior of racism is more than reading a good book or watching an entertaining video, it is about us taking ownership and being intentional of how the gospel informs our lives. Jesus came to conquer sin and we have the opportunity to partner with the Holy Spirit in the discipleship of our kids.

I am blessed to serve alongside all of you as you disciple your kids. Please reach out if you would like more information or just to connect.

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