

Recommended Resources on Racial Issues

Compiled by Kay Daigle

Are you wondering where to start?

A little history is a great place to begin your research. The PBS video series “The African Americans: Many Rivers to Cross” is a series that can be watched slowly. *The Warmth of Other Suns* is eye-opening, but it’s a long book if you aren’t a reader. *The Myth of Equality* is an excellent shorter book. To understand that systemic injustice in the prison system, watch the documentary “13th” or the movie “Just Mercy.” If you prefer, begin with an article that catches your interest.

If you’re white and a church or ministry leader, *White Awake* is a great choice. *A Language of Healing for a Polarized Nation* is so helpful for navigating tough conversations on any divisive issue. The organizations listed can be useful in gathering resources for individuals, small groups or churches.

Videos/podcasts

- “13th.” Netflix, 2016. *Documentary analyzing historical criminalization of African-Americans and the U.S. prison boom. As of July 10, 2020 it is free both on [Netflix](#) and [YouTube](#) for non-subscribers.*
- Cequea, Alex. "[Systemic Racism Explained.](#)" YouTube, April 16, 2019. *A short video that makes this concept easy to understand*
- [Leading toward Racial Reconciliation](#) 3-part video series from *Beyond Ordinary Women Ministries* with Sharifa Stevens and Kelley Mathews
- [Beginning the Road to Racial Reconciliation](#) 4-part video series from *Beyond Ordinary Women Ministries* with Sharifa Stevens and Susan Seay
- "[The African Americans: Many Rivers to Cross](#)" PBS, 2014. *A series on the history of African-Americans*
- "[The Day of Pentecost](#)" | [Irving Bible Church Women](#) podcast
- “Just Mercy.” Warner Brothers, 2019. *This movie was streaming for free during June 2020 on Amazon Prime Video, Apple TV, Google Play, FandangoNow, Redbox, Vudu, YouTube, and other services. You might check if any of these platforms has continued to offer it.*

Articles and Posts

- Evans, Rachel Held. "[Repenting of ‘Colorblindness.’](#)" rachelheldevans.com/blog. June 26, 2015.
- Frost, Michael. "[A Tale of Two Christians on their Knees: Colin Kaepernick vs. Tim Tebow.](#)" Washington Post. September 24, 2017.

- Korver, Kyle. "[Privileged](#)". New York Times. April 9, 2019. *Korver's personal story of recognizing his privilege*
- Moore, Russell. "[White Supremacy Angers Jesus, but Does it Anger His Church?](#)" Washington Post, August 14, 2017.
- Voskamp, Ann. "[After Charlottesville, the Question We Absolutely Have to Answer: Who is Willing to Pick Up their Cross?](#)" August 14, 2017.

Books— with annotations

- Brown, Austin Channing. [I'm Still Here: Black Dignity in a World Made for Whiteness](#). New York: Convergent, 2018. *Memoir revealing what it's like to be black in a white world*
- Cleveland, Christena. [Disunity in Christ: Uncovering the Hidden Forces that Keep Us Apart](#). Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2013. *Practical help for bridging the divide*
- Coates, Ta-Nehisi. [Between the World and Me](#). New York: One World, 2015.
- DeAngelo, Robin. [White Fragility: Why It's So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism](#). Boston, MA: Beacon Press, 2018. *A hard read for whites but worth the discomfort*
- Gilbreath, Edward. [Reconciliation Blues: A Black Evangelical's Inside View of White Christianity](#). Downers Grove, IL: IVP Books, 2006. *This feels totally relevant for today.*
- Hull, Daniel. [White Awake: An honest look at what it means to be white](#). IVP Books, 2017.
- Jacobson, Wayne, Arnita Willis Taylor and Robert "Bob" L. Prater. [A Language of Healing for a Polarized Nation: Creating safe environments for conversations about race, politics, sexuality and religion](#). Torrington, Wy: Black Sheep Media, 2019. *Help in participating in conversations about polarized topics*
- Morrison, LaTasha. [Be the Bridge: Pursuing God's Heart for Racial Reconciliation](#). Colorado Springs: Waterbrook, 2019. *LaTasha Morrison founded Be the Bridge listed under websites.*
- Tisby, Jemar. [The Color of Compromise: The Truth about the American Church's Complicity in Racism](#). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2019. *History of the evangelical church and racism.*
- Wilkerson, Isabel. [The Warmth of Other Suns](#). New York: First Vintage Books Edition, 2011. *The non-fiction story of the Great Migration of African-Americans from the South to the North. It's a long book, but very readable*
- Wytmsa, Ken. [The Myth of Equality: Uncovering the Roots of Injustice and Privilege](#). IVP Books, 2017. *A short history of African-Americans*

Websites

- Be the Bridge organization has opportunities for training, resources for creating small group discussions, and articles: <https://beabridgebuilder.com/get-involved/>
- wearethreaded.org *An organization providing resources for all as well as local Dallas area study groups.*