

Group/Individual Study

Series - "Love Does": "Love reconciles Races"

Passages: Gal. 2:11-13, 3:26-28

REFLECT on the message heard on Sunday, 4/22

1. Read Galatians 2:11-13. In New Testament times the big "ism" the Church struggled with wasn't racism based on skin color, but rather how to deal with Gentiles who were coming to Christ. What pressures were attempting to sway the initial Jewish followers of Jesus from God's intent and purpose regarding people of different backgrounds? What are some of the most common "isms" we have to struggle against today as Christ followers?
2. Read Galatians 3:26-28. Put this into your own words. What is it about Jesus that brings people together in spite of differences? What does the saying mean, "The ground is level at the foot of the cross"?
3. Give an example from your life how you've been blessed by the truth of Gal 3:26-28. If Paul were preaching this message in today's US context, what advice might he give us regarding political opinions and differences?
4. Read Genesis 1:27. Apparently for God to make humankind in His image, it required Him to make both male and female. How does each gender flesh out the picture of God we present as His image bearers? Do you know of people groups different from yourself who seem to live out an aspect of God's character more fully than you do? Explain?
5. Pastor Christian said on Sunday; rather than being "colorblind", we should "celebrate color". What do you think he meant by that? Do you have a "hero" from a different race, class, or background? Why are they your hero?
6. Pastor Christian also said that it's important in these matters to do more than simply "mouth" the right answers, but to practically live out these truths in our lives. What barrier of race, geography, perspective, social status, or economic background do you think God would have you cross with Him? What might it look like to do that?