

# BEYOND SUNDAY: May 2, 2021

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Series Page: [wearepcc.com/btb](http://wearepcc.com/btb)

Message: Unity in Diversity

At PCC, we want any person from any racial or ethnic background to feel like they are among family. In order to do so, we must become more aware of God's heart for racial reconciliation, key historical events, and the hurt caused to many. Each week, our [Be The Bridge](#) series (BTB) will help us journey toward greater understanding, empathy and, in time, action. This week, we focus on humility, history, and God's desire for unity in diversity.

## Individual / Group Discussion Questions

#1

How are you feeling about entering into these challenging and complex conversations about racial reconciliation (*am feeling... frustrated, confused, scared, excited, hopeful, etc.*)? What are your thoughts about being the bridge for racial reconciliation in your world?

#2

Why is humility so important as we enter into these conversations? How does this relate to [Philippians 2:3-5](#)? What might you need to do internally or externally to live out humility as you participate in this series or your group? (see pages 7-9 in BTB book, start at bottom of page 7.)

#3

Note the following statement from BTB, page 28: "Forgiveness and healing cannot begin until we become aware of the historical roots of the problem [of race] and acknowledge the harm caused." Why is this statement so important to racial reconciliation? How would you rate the depth of your understanding of the biblical and secular history of race (shallow, mid-level, deep)? From where and who have you received your best "non-white washed" biblical and secular history lessons?

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#4

With regards to race, Gary Gaddini, our Lead Pastor, stated the following in his Sunday message: “God has designed humanity (the human race) so that we share a common ancestry and from that have grown into a diverse family dwelling all over the world with differing looks, customs and cultures... the life of Jesus and the church in the NT model a supernatural unity that transcends race, ethnicity, culture, class and gender.” How do these passages support Gary’s statement? [Genesis 1:26-27](#), [Acts 2:5–11](#), [Acts 10:34-35](#), [Acts 17:26](#), [Galatians 3:28](#), [Revelation 7:9-10](#)

#5

Read pp. 22-23 in BTB. What else is this telling you about the origin of race and the healthy kingdom perspective/approach we need to take as the church?

#6

What interactions does Jesus have that give witness to the fact that He was the ultimate bridge builder when it came to cross cultural engagement (e.g., women at the well, Romans, Gentiles, etc.)? Prior, have you viewed these interactions as examples of racial reconciliation? What hinders you from engaging more cross culturally like Jesus?

#7

With regards to racial reconciliation, what is God revealing about the state of your heart and mind (denial, defensiveness, defeat, open to discovery and desiring to take action)? What next step will you take to help you move forward in this journey (e.g., pray, read next chapter, talk to someone, etc.)?

## **A Prayer of Humility (BTB, page 11)**

*Lord, we ask that the words within the Bible and the BTB book fall on the soil of our hearts. Come into our brokenness and our lives with your love that heals all. Consume our pride and replace it with humility and vulnerability. Allow us to make space for your correction and redemption. Allow us to bow down with humble hearts, hearts of repentance.*

*Bind us together in true unity and restoration. May we hear your voice within the words of these pages. Give us collective eyes to see our role in repairing what has been broken. Allow these words to be a conduit for personal transformation that would lead to collective reproduction.*

## **Resources**

1. Get a FREE *Be the Bridge* book! [Pick up at church or [request to be sent to your home](#)]
2. Get in a [Be the Bridge Group](#) [Starts this week! / read chapters 1-2 prior]
3. Read chapter 3 prior to week 2 [[Be the Bridge - Schedule](#)]