

BEYOND SUNDAY: June 6, 2021



Series Page: wearepcc.com/btb

Message: Redeeming the 'R' Word

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 harm caused to many. Each week, our "[Be The Bridge](#)" (BTB) series will help us journey toward greater understanding, empathy and, in time, action. This week, we focus on how seeking and extending forgiveness is essential to being a bridge builder.

INDIVIDUAL & GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

#1

In the past week, what awareness have you gained when it comes to the topic of race and racial reconciliation? Or since the beginning of this study, how has God transformed you?

#2

Note the first 3 steps of the process toward racial reconciliation. Now, ponder/discuss why steps 4-5, which involve **repenting** (change in mind and action) and **repair** (reparations, making amends), which are so vital to the process. Personally, how have you seen steps 4-5 to be important in establishing reconciliation in your relationships?

Step 1: Acknowledging and lamenting racial injustice, overcoming your shame and guilt associated with it

Step 2: Confessing your own part in the injustices

Step 3: Extending forgiveness

Step 4: Repent

Step 5: Repair

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#3

What are these passages telling us about the kingdom expectations and benefits of engaging in repentance and reparation? [Acts 3:19](#), [2 Corinthians 7:10–11](#), [Numbers 5:6-7](#), [Luke 19:8](#).

#4

What hinders individuals and institutions from taking steps of repentance and reparation? So then, what will the majority white culture within our nation and churches have to give up in order to move toward racial reconciliation? And what will the minority BIPOC culture have to give up? (see BTB p. 157, last two paragraphs prior to The American Imagination for Reparations section and p. 163 - Being a Bridge for Reparations section)

#5

What is God calling you to when it comes to repentance and reparation within your family, neighborhood, church, work, city, nation, or world?

A PRAYER OF REPENTANCE AND REPARATION

Be the Bridge book, pages 148, 169

Lord, may we be transformed by your love for us and in turn become a reflection of your love to those who don't look like us or share the same background as we do. Forgive us for passing judgment on people based on their appearance, ethnicity, or religious affiliation. May we walk in love and unity with one another.

Lord, those who have come before me were flawed. I am also flawed. Open my eyes, Lord. Am I guilty of muting the pain-filled volume of my sisters and brothers with my skewed sight? Have I prioritized my comfort over the equality and equity of my neighbors? Have I ignored the ways our systems have oppressed and suppressed others? Forgive me, Lord. I am in need of repair. Give me the heart and voice of reconciliation and show me what it means to actively make reparations to those around me. Provide a heart of righteous determination as I work to be the person you want me to become.

Action

Be the Bridge reading schedule: click [here](#)