

Door of Hope Northeast

Racial Justice Resources

In light of the continuing presence of racial injustice and division, we long for Jesus to help us learn, change, and contribute to the battle against racism in meaningful ways. We affirm that the unity of the beautifully diverse collection of human tribes in Jesus is a central theme across the Bible, as is God's passion for seeing His people pursue justice—tangibly expressing His love in the world. There's no mistaking that these pursuits will require significant grace-driven effort from our community over the long haul. As a starting block, we offer this curated list of good resources to help us engage these conversations (in addition to our [Unique & Unified teaching series](#)). No one is expected to look at all of these (and there are countless worthy ones not on this list), but we hope some of them will be helpful.

ARTICLES

- [“A Biblical Critique of Secular Justice and Critical Theory”](#) by Tim Keller
- [“Bleeding Albina: A History of Community Divestment, 1940-2000”](#) by Karen J. Gibson
- [“George Floyd and Me”](#) by Shai Linne
- [“Letter from Birmingham Jail”](#) by Martin Luther King, Jr.
- [“Race, Gospel, and Justice: An Interview with Esau McCaulley”](#) by Ed Stetzer
- [“The Racist History of Portland, the Whitest City in America”](#) by Alana Semuels
- [“Reflections on Black Lives”](#) by Carl Ellis, Jr.
- [“Social Justice, Critical Race Theory, Marxism, and Biblical Ethics”](#) by Kelly Hamren

BOOKS

Each of these books is written from a Christian perspective and addresses at least one particularly important part of the overall conversation about racial justice. Of course, you might find elements of each book that you disagree with, but they are all good examples of thoughtful, orthodox Christian reflection on their particular subjects.

- [Beyond Racial Division](#) by George Yancey – Professor of sociology and religious studies George Yancey develops a powerful model for race relations that is both conversant with and yet avoids the pitfalls of both the so-called “colorblind” approach and the “anti-racist” approaches overly dependent on critical theories.
- [The Color of Compromise](#) by Jemar Tisby – In this challenging read, Tisby walks the reader through a brief history of the American church's complicity with racism.
- [Divided by Faith](#) by Christian Smith and Michael Emerson – The result of conducting over 2000 surveys and 200 interviews, the book unpacks the extent of and the reasons behind racial segregation in the American church.
- [Ending Overcriminalization and Mass Incarceration](#) by Anthony B. Bradley – A Christian engagement with ideas related to overcriminalization, over-sentencing, mass incarceration and some constructive ideas for change.

- [From Every People and Nation](#) by J. Daniel Hays – A biblical theology of race and ethnicity that traces the theme through the whole story of Scripture, culminating in God’s establishment of a worshipping community from every nation, tribe, people, and language.
- [Heal Us, Emmanuel](#) edited by Doug Serven – A collection of 30 essays written by leaders in the Presbyterian Church in America reflecting on failures and hopes for racial reconciliation in the denomination and beyond in light of the gospel.
- [Just Mercy](#) by Bryan Stevenson – A memoir focusing on Stevenson’s work with the Equal Justice Initiative and the particulars of an early case he worked that profoundly impacted his understanding of the American criminal justice system and the nature of true justice.
- [Let Justice Roll Down](#) by John M. Perkins – A victim himself of profound racial injustice, Perkins tells his story of pursuing Jesus and justice with uncommon determination, and lasting hope for real transformation in Christ.
- [Race and Place](#) by David Leong – Leong walks us through the impact geography and racist practices like redlining have had on race relationships in the US and offers constructive ideas for how to pursue reconciliation despite these barriers.
- [Reading While Black](#) by Esau McCaulley – Powerful and timely reflections on being black and Christian and the power of black biblical interpretation.

CHILDREN’S BOOKS

- [When God Made You](#) by Matthew Paul Turner & David Catrow (ages 3-7)
- [God's Very Good Idea](#) by Trillia Newbell & Catalina Echeverri (ages 4-8)
- [One Big Heart](#) by Linsey Davis & Lucy Fleming (ages 4-8)
- [God Made Me and You](#) by Shai Linne & Trish Mahoney (ages 4-11)
- [The Gospel in Color](#) by Curtis Woods, Jarvis Williams & Rommel Ruiz (ages 6+)
- [I Have a Dream](#) by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. & Kadir Nelson (ages 7+)

ORGANIZATIONS

There are countless organizations doing incredibly important work for racial justice around our city and country. We especially feel that Equal Justice Initiative is worth your time and money if you feel compelled to give.

- [Equal Justice Initiative](#)