

Oneness Embraced Toolbox of Resources

Crossroads Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/crforoneness/>

Missions Bible Fellowship- Oneness Class (For All)

Sundays: 9:15 - 10:30am

Rm 753 | Led by Tony Jones

The Oneness Class exists to impact the environment at Crossroads where we are more consciously equipped to embrace and reflect God's view of a ministry of racial reconciliation and social justice. Our desire is to practice authenticity in our relationships while embracing and celebrating our community's racial, socio-economic and cultural differences. Please join us as we explore these topics through a Biblical lens using a variety of resources including speakers, "safe space" discussion groups, Bible study and prayer. All are welcome!

Also Available on Right Now Media (contact John Frye if you need access):

Oneness Embraced by Tony Evans is a video series of 6 video sessions approximately 12 minutes each.

- ✚ You can access and view the videos and participant guide through Crossroads Fellowship Website.
- ✚ Under the GROW drop down window select "Small Groups"
- ✚ Scroll down to "Grow Your Group"
- ✚ At the bottom of the page you will see a list of groups and at the bottom of the list you will select: **[Oneness Embraced: Participant or Leader's Guide](#)** select the guide you need.
- ✚ On the first page you can click on the link
 - <https://www.rightnowmedia.org/Content/Series/196905> to access the session videos you can view along with the guide for each session.

Talks and Interviews:

Oneness Embraced by Dr. Tony Evans is a video series of 6 sessions approximately 12 minutes each: <https://www.rightnowmedia.org/Content/Series/196905>

Martin Luther King Jr. excerpt of interview:

https://www.facebook.com/NBCNews/videos/2505848169435198/?hc_ref=ARSnC49dA1xXVhMcumE9Eu5hYLg9nv_MD-yD1FkIsIOqjBYrD0f1syafYMsjrCCF-o

Bryan Stevenson: We need to talk about an injustice | TED Talk

https://www.ted.com/talks/bryan_stevenson_we_need_to_talk_about_an_injustice

Sermon by Timothy Keller showing our Biblical mandate for social justice. Many more available: <https://gospelinlife.com/downloads/doing-justice-and-mercy-9183/>

Interview of Michael O. Emerson by David Swanson, pastor of New Community Covenant Church in Chicago (Bronzeville) Discussion of challenges of multi-cultural churches.

https://www.facebook.com/watch/live/?v=466237997462318&ref=watch_permalink

MLK Conference on April 2-3, 2018: Reflections on where Christians have been divided and looking ahead to pursue racial unity in the midst of current tension:

<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/conference/mlk50/>

Oneness Embraced Toolbox of Resources

Documentaries:

13th Documentary by Ava DuVernay on African Americans and the U.S. prison system: <https://www.netflix.com/title/80091741>

Wilmington on Fire by Chris Everett. A film documenting the investigation into the Wilmington Massacre of 1898, the only successful coup in United States history: [https://vimeo.com/Wilmington on Fire](https://vimeo.com/Wilmington-on-Fire) › Videos Trailer: <https://vimeo.com/ondemand/wilmingtononfire>

Slavery by Another Name Documentary on how forced labor of African Americans continued for 80 years after the Emancipation Proclamation: <https://www.pbs.org/video/tpt-preview-slavery-another-name/>

The Stranger Documentary on immigration and Christians response. <https://vimeo.com/97163476>

12 Years a Slave: A sobering drama about racism and slavery that will sear your soul and set you thinking about the shadow side of American history. https://www.imdb.com/video/vi1270005017?playlistId=tt2024544&ref_=vp_rv_ap_0

Other Related Documentaries:

- ✦ **In Plain Sight Documentary** on sex trafficking and the story of several women who opened homes to help women and girls out of sex trafficking: www.inplainsightfilm.com
- ✦ **A Place at the Table Documentary** on hunger and food insecurity: <https://www.amazon.com/Place-at-Table-Jeff-Bridges/dp/B00B119H1A>
- ✦ **Storied Streets Documentary** on homelessness by those who live it: <https://storiedstreets.vhx.tv/>

Recommended Books To Read:

Generous Justice by Timothy Keller (2010): “Keller presents the Bible as a fundamental source for promoting justice and compassion for those in need. In *Generous Justice*, he explores a life of justice empowered by an experience of grace: a generous, gracious justice. “

Oneness Embraced by Tony Evans (2011): “Black/white relations in the culture at large and in the church in particular continue to be a stain on America's respectable reputation. Evans promotes biblical understanding of the Kingdom foundation of oneness.”

Separate no More by Norman Peart (2000): The great strides our society has made since the civil rights era still leaves a disturbing racial divide in our churches and among Christians. Racial reconciliation is not a peripheral matter, but at the heart of the church's message and mission.

Welcoming Justice: God's Move Toward Beloved Community by Charles Marsh and John Perkins (2018): “Historian and theologian Charles Marsh partners with veteran activist John Perkins partner to chronicle God's vision for a more equitable and just world.”

Dream with me: Race, Love, and the Struggle we must Win by John Perkins (2017): *Dream with Me* is Perkins' look back at a life devoted to seeking justice for all God's people, as well as a look forward to what he sees as a potentially historic breakthrough for people of every race.

Roadmap to Reconciliation by Dr. Brenda Salter McNeil (2015): Dr. McNeil has counseled many churches and other organizations in the area of racial reconciliation. She is a pastor and a professor at Seattle Pacific Univ. This book presents a clear sense of direction in helping communities move into unity, wholeness and justice.

Oneness Embraced Toolbox of Resources

***The Heart of Racial Justice* by Dr. Brenda Salter McNeil & Rick Richardson (2009):** The two authors make the "connection between the role of healing prayer and spiritual warfare in bringing about justice". It takes soul change first to bring about social change.

***Redisciplining the White Church: From Cheap Diversity to True Solidarity* by David W. Swanson (2020):** "Before white churches can pursue diversity, we must first take steps to address the faulty discipleship that has led to our segregation in the first place. Swanson proposes that we rethink our churches' habits, or liturgies, and imagine together holistic, communal discipleship practices that can reform us as members of Christ's diverse body."

***Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption* by Bryan Stevenson (2015):** A powerful true story about the potential for mercy to redeem us, and a clarion call to fix our broken system of justice—from one of the most brilliant and influential lawyers of our time.

***Waking Up White and Finding Myself in the Story of Race* by Debby Irving (2014):** The author was an educator who lived her comfortable white upper middle-class life and yet was trying to reach out to students of color with no success. "Then in 2009, one 'aha' moment launched an adventure of discover and insight that drastically shifted her worldview and upended her life plan."

***Jesus and the Disinherited* by Howard Thurman (1949).** "Helped shape the civil rights movement and changed our nation's history forever. Thurman's work reaches past anger and reaches toward a vision of unity."

***The Color of Compromise* by Jemar Tisby (2019):** "Tisby provides an in-depth diagnosis for a racially divided American church and suggests ways to foster a more equitable and inclusive environment among God's people."

***The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness* by Michelle Alexander. (2010 and 2012):** The rebirth of a caste-like system in the United States that has resulted in millions of African Americans locked behind bars and then relegated to a permanent second-class status—denied the very rights supposedly won in the Civil Rights Movement.

***Rethinking Incarceration: Advocating for Justice that Restores* by Dominique DuBois Gilliard. (2018):** Gilliard explores the history and foundation of mass incarceration, examining Christianity's role in its evolution and expansion. He then shows how Christians can pursue justice that restores and reconciles, offering creative solutions and innovative interventions.

***Americas Original Sin: Racism, White Privilege, and the Bridge to a New America* by Jim Wallis (2017):** Racism is much more than political, but *rooted in sin*, repentance, morality, and faith and is the key to a revival for racial reconciliation and justice. It is a tool for new conversations within and between churches across racial lines.

***Christians at the Border: Immigration, the Church, & the Bible* by M. Daniel Carrol (2013):** How to think Biblically about immigration.

***More Than Equals* by Spencer Perkins and Chris Rice:** Living proof that White and Black Christians can live together.

***Woke Church* by Eric Mason (2018):** Dr. Mason challenges America to take a hard look at our history and stand together against the indignities and injustices in our world so as to understand that justice is both theological and sociological.

***Right Color Wrong Culture* by Bryan Loritts (2014):** A leadership fable that explores three cultural expressions that exist within every ethnic group and shows us the importance of understanding these cultural expressions when looking for the right leadership to move your organization toward multiethnicity.

***Divided by Faith* by Michael O. Emerson and Christian Smith (2018):** This book is the story of how well-intentioned people, their values, and their institutions actually recreate racial divisions and inequalities they ostensibly oppose."

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Movies Suggestions:

Amistad (1997)	Remember The Titans (2013)	
The Help (2011)	Harriet (2019)	
Hidden Figures (2017)		
Loving (2016)		
Best of Enemies (2019)		
Just Mercy (2019)		
Amistad (1997)		
The Butler (2012)		

Books for Children: *We have resources but are currently spending the time vetting them.*

Generic Questions/Conversation Starters):

1. What main themes about race/racial relations stuck out to you the most in relation to current events in our country?
2. How did this [movie, book] challenge the way you view “race”?
3. What made you feel the most uncomfortable while [reading, watching]?
4. Do you agree with the main points made? Why or why not?
5. Looking at this media form through a biblical lens, what spiritual truths or lessons can we learn from this information?
6. What is a personal “call to action” you can take away from this? How about the Church’s (aka, Body of Christ) call to action?
7. Are there things you will do differently in your everyday life after [viewing, reading] this?
8. If you already believed/agreed with the information presented, then how has discussing it in a group setting and hearing other people’s opinions changed or maybe affirmed your perspective?
9. What is something you learned from this that challenged an assumption you have made about race/racism in the past and how will changing your perspective on this assumption impact your daily interactions? The way you work? Your friendships?
10. Are you aware of any ways in which you have minimized the racial experience of someone directly? Indirectly? For POC (people of color) – how has it felt for you when white people are dismissive of your experiences?
11. What are some practical ways that you can support your friends of color in light of this information? For POC, how do you feel most supported by non-POC in your life? Or, how would you best feel supported by them?
12. Did you learn about racism in a classroom setting beyond the concept of slavery/abolition? If so, how accurate was the information that you received compared to what we have just watched/read? What are some new things you learned?
13. Do you have any ideas on how we as a Church can support our community by acknowledging the ongoing issues of systemic racism and how it impacts the unity of the Body of Christ?