

Next Steps for Racial Healing and Unity

Compiled by Steve Puckett

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Books Online Resources, and Inventories:

Intercultural Development Inventory: cross-cultural assessment of intercultural competence that is used to build intercultural competence to achieve international and domestic diversity and inclusion goals and outcomes. The IDI assessment and debriefing help you develop a more culturally-competent mindset about antiracism and inclusion.

<https://idiinventory.com>

[BetheBridge.com](https://www.bethebridge.com)

Be the Bridge offers opportunities for education, antiracist resources, and interaction for people from many different people groups.

www.facebook.com/groups/BetheBridge

[I'm Still Here: Black Dignity in a World Made for Whiteness](#) by Austin Channing Brown

Austin Channing Brown's first encounter with a racialized America came at age seven, when she discovered her parents named her Austin to deceive future employers into thinking she was a white man. Growing up in majority-white schools and churches, Austin writes, "I had to learn what it means to love blackness," a journey that led to a lifetime spent navigating America's racial divide as a writer, speaker, and expert helping organizations practice genuine inclusion. [Audio Book](#)

In a time when nearly every institution (schools, churches, universities, businesses) claims to value diversity in its mission statement, Austin writes in breathtaking detail about her journey to self-worth and the pitfalls that kill our attempts at racial justice. Her stories bear witness to the complexity of America's social fabric—from Black Cleveland neighborhoods to private schools in the middle-class suburbs, from prison walls to the boardrooms at majority-white organizations.

For readers who have engaged with America's legacy on race through the writing of Ta-Nehisi Coates and Michael Eric Dyson, *I'm Still Here* is an illuminating look at how white, middle-class, Evangelicalism has participated in an era of rising racial hostility, inviting the reader to confront apathy, recognize God's ongoing work in the world, and discover how blackness—if we let it—can save us all.

[The Cross and the Lynching Tree](#) by Dr. James Cone [Audio Book](#)

The cross and the lynching tree are the two most emotionally charged symbols in the history of the African American community. In this powerful new work, theologian James H. Cone explores these symbols and their interconnection in the history and souls of black folk. Both the cross and the lynching tree represent the worst in human beings and at the same time a thirst for life that refuses to let the worst determine our final meaning. While the lynching tree symbolized white power and black death, the cross symbolizes divine power and black life God overcoming the power of sin and death. For African Americans, the image of Jesus, hung on a tree to die, powerfully grounded their faith that God was with them, even in the suffering of the lynching era.

[Parting the Waters : America in the King Years 1954-63](#)

[Audio Book](#)

[Pillar of Fire : America in the King Years 1963-65](#)

[Audio Book](#)

[At Canaan's Edge: America in the King Years, 1965-68](#)

[Audio Book](#)

by Taylor Branch (These volumes would be for those who love great detail, great biographical reading, and well written history. Each volume is around 1,000 pages. He won the Pulitzer Prize for *Parting the Waters*).

[The Souls of Black Folk](#) by W.E.B. Du Bois [Audio Book](#)

This landmark book is a founding work in the literature of black protest. W. E. B. Du Bois (1868–1963) played a key role in developing the strategy and program that dominated early 20th-century black protest in America. In this collection of essays, first published together in 1903, he eloquently affirms that it is beneath the dignity of a human being to beg for those rights that belong inherently to all mankind. He also charges that the strategy of accommodation to white supremacy advanced by Booker T. Washington, then the most influential black leader in America, would only serve to perpetuate black oppression. Publication of *The Souls of Black Folk* was a dramatic event that helped to polarize black leaders into two groups: the more conservative followers of Washington and the more radical supporters of aggressive protest. Its influence cannot be overstated. It is essential reading for everyone interested in African-American history and the struggle for civil rights in America.

[White Awake: An Honest Look at What it Means to Be White](#) by Daniel Hill [Audio Book](#)

Daniel Hill will never forget the day he heard these words: "Daniel, you may be white, but don't let that lull you into thinking you have no culture. White culture is very real. In fact, when white culture comes in contact with other cultures, it almost always wins. So it would be a really good idea for you to learn about your culture." Confused and unsettled by this encounter, Hill began a journey of understanding his own white identity. Today he is an active participant in addressing and confronting racial and systemic injustices. And in this compelling and timely book, he shows you the seven stages to expect on your own path to cultural awakening. It's crucial to understand both personal and social realities in the areas of race, culture, and identity. This book will give you a new perspective on being white and also empower you to be an agent of reconciliation in our increasingly diverse and divided world.

[Unpacking The Invisible Knapsack](#) by Peggy McIntosh

In 1988, scholar and activist Peggy McIntosh coined the phrase “white privilege” to describe the benefits afforded white people in American Society in her essay, *Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack*. One of the most helpful aspects of her essay is a list of fifty specific examples of white privilege she experienced in her own life.

[Be the Bridge: Pursuing God's Heart for Racial Reconciliation](#) by Latasha Morrison

[Be the Bridge Audio Book](#)

In an era where we seem to be increasingly divided along racial lines, many are hesitant to step into the gap, fearful of saying or doing the wrong thing. At times the silence, particularly within the church, seems deafening.

But change begins with an honest conversation among a group of Christians willing to give a voice to unspoken hurts, hidden fears, and mounting tensions. These ongoing dialogues have formed the foundation of a global movement called Be the Bridge—a nonprofit organization whose goal is to equip the church to have a distinctive and transformative response to racism and racial division.

In this perspective-shifting book, founder Latasha Morrison shows how you can participate in this

incredible work and replicate it in your own community. With conviction and grace, she examines the historical complexities of racism. She expertly applies biblical principles, such as lamentation, confession, and forgiveness, to lay the framework for restoration.

Along with prayers, discussion questions, and other resources to enhance group engagement, *Be the Bridge* presents a compelling vision of what it means for every follower of Jesus to become a bridge builder—committed to pursuing justice and racial unity in light of the gospel.

[*Freedom's Daughters: The Unsung Heroines of the Civil Rights Movement from 1830 to 1970* by Lynne Olson](#)

In this groundbreaking and absorbing book, credit finally goes where credit is due -- to the bold women who were crucial to the success of the civil rights movement. From the Montgomery bus boycott to the lunch counter sit-ins to the Freedom Rides, Lynne Olson skillfully tells the long-overlooked story of the extraordinary women who were among the most fearless, resourceful, and tenacious leaders of the civil rights movement.

Freedom's Daughters includes portraits of more than sixty women -- many until now forgotten and some never before written about -- from the key figures (Ida B. Wells, Eleanor Roosevelt, Ella Baker, and Septima Clark, among others) to some of the smaller players who represent the hundreds of women who each came forth to do her own small part and who together ultimately formed the mass movements that made the difference. *Freedom's Daughters* puts a human face on the civil rights struggle -- and shows that that face was often female.

[*Dream with Me: Race, Love, and the Struggle We Must Win* by John M. Perkins](#) [Audio Book](#)

According to recent surveys and studies, race relations in the United States are the worst they've been since the 1990s, and many would argue that life for most minorities has not significantly improved since the civil rights era of the 1960s. For so many, the dream of true equality has dissolved into a reality of prejudice, fear, and violence as a way of life.

John M. Perkins has been there from the beginning. Raised by his sharecropping grandparents, Perkins fled Mississippi in 1947 after his brother was fatally shot by a police officer. He led voter registration efforts in 1964, worked for school desegregation in 1967, and was imprisoned and tortured in 1970. Through it all, he has remained determined to seek justice and reconciliation based in Christ's redemptive work.

"Justice is something that every generation has to strive for," he says. And despite the setbacks of recent years, Perkins finds hope in the young people he has met all across the nation who are hard at work, bringing about reconciliation in God's name and offering acceptance to all. *Dream with Me* is his 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.

[*Why Are All the Black Kids Together in the Cafeteria: And Other Conversations About Race* by Beverly Daniel Tatum](#) [Audio Book](#)

Walk into any racially mixed high school and you will see Black, White, and Latino youth clustered in their own groups. Is this self-segregation a problem to address or a coping strategy? Beverly Daniel Tatum, a renowned authority on the psychology of racism, argues that straight talk about our racial identities is essential if we are serious about enabling communication across racial and ethnic divides. These topics have only become more urgent as the national conversation about race is increasingly acrimonious. This fully revised edition is essential reading for anyone seeking to understand the dynamics of race in America.

Movies and Videos:

Selma (2014): A chronicle of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s campaign to secure equal voting rights via an epic march from **Selma** to Montgomery, Alabama, in 1965. Dr Martin Luther King and his followers go to **Selma**, Alabama to attempt to achieve, through non-violent protest, equal voting rights and abilities for black people.

Just Mercy (2019): Just Mercy" is about the world-renowned civil rights defense attorney Bryan Stevenson, who "works to free a wrongly condemned death row prisoner. That prisoner, McMillian, was convicted for the murder of a white woman. Stevenson is also famous for founding the [Equal Justice Initiative](#).

Loving (2016): The story of Richard and Mildred Loving, a couple whose arrest for interracial marriage in 1960s Virginia began a legal battle that would end with the Supreme Court's historic 1967 decision.

A Raisin in the Sun (1961): The movie centers on the Younger family, an African American family living in a city. The family must decide what to do with a \$10,000 life insurance check. It deals with themes of racism, feminism, and economic inequality, among others. The film is a groundbreaking work that manages to be both specific to the African-American experience and universal in its themes of hope, change, and upward mobility.

Cry, The Beloved Country (2016): Reverend Stephen Kumalo (James Earl Jones) is a back-country Zulu preacher in South Africa. When his son (Eric Miyeni) is accused of robbery and murder, Kumalo journeys to Johannesburg, where he is helped by a local priest (Vusi Kunene). He eventually meets James Jarvis (Richard Harris), the father of the murder victim, who is a prominent white supremacist. However, they discover common ground, and their mutual respect becomes a symbol of apartheid's eventual demise.

I Am Not Your Negro: I Am Not Your Negro is a searing indictment of America's failure to rectify its shameful history of racial inequality. James Baldwin's personal account of the civil rights movement and its trio of outspoken icons on the vulnerable vanguard reminds us that there is still much work to be done.

[Whitopia: My road trip through the whitest towns in America](#) | Rich Benjamin (Ted Talk): As America becomes more and more multicultural, Rich Benjamin noticed a phenomenon: Some communities were actually getting less diverse. So he got out a map, found the whitest towns in the USA — and moved in. In this funny, honest, human talk, he shares what he learned as a black man in Whitopia.

[I'm Still Here](#): Talk by Austin Channing Brown taken from her book, *I'm Still Here*.

Site Visits

[United States Civil Rights Trail](#): The fight for American civil rights spanned decades, cities and states – from Topeka, Kansas, to Memphis, Tennessee, from Atlanta, Georgia, to Selma and Birmingham, and all the way to Washington, D.C. Chart the course of the Civil Rights Movement through the Civil Rights Trail that begins with the site of school integration and takes you to the scene of Bloody Sunday and finally the Supreme Court of the United States.

This website allows you to explore the destinations important to the Civil Rights Movement, as well as plan your journey to cities along the trail. On this site, you'll find places to see and things to do at each destination. Plus, you'll find in-depth explorations crafted to allow you to experience the destination or event in a more comprehensive way. Discover the trail. Discover the fight for civil rights. And make sure the true stories that changed history are never lost.

[National Museum of African American History and Culture](#): The National Museum of African American History and Culture is the only national museum devoted exclusively to the documentation of African American life, history, and culture. It was established by Act of Congress in 2003, following decades of efforts to promote and highlight the contributions of African Americans. To date, the Museum has collected more than 36,000 artifacts and nearly 100,000 individuals have become members. The Museum opened to the public on September 24, 2016, as the 19th and newest museum of the Smithsonian Institution.

[Birmingham Civil Rights Institute](#): The Birmingham Civil Rights Institute, part of the Birmingham Civil Rights National Monument and an affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution, is a cultural and educational research center that promotes a comprehensive understanding for the significance of civil rights developments in Birmingham. Celebrating its 25th anniversary in 2017, BCRI reaches more than 150,000 individuals each year through award-winning programs and services.

The 16th Street Baptist Church is across the street from the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute. In 1963, the church was bombed by Ku Klux Klan members. The bombing killed four young girls in the midst of the Civil Rights Movement. The church is still in operation and is a central landmark in the Birmingham Civil Rights District.

[The Legacy Museum: From Enslavement to Mass Incarceration](#): The Legacy Museum: From Enslavement to Mass Incarceration is situated on a site in Montgomery where enslaved people were once warehoused. A block from one of the most prominent slave auction spaces in America, the Legacy Museum is steps away from an Alabama dock and rail station where tens of thousands of Black people were trafficked during the 19th century.

[The National Memorial for Peace and Justice](#): The National Memorial for Peace and Justice, Montgomery, Alabama, which opened to the public on April 26, 2018, is the nation's first memorial dedicated to the legacy of enslaved Black people, people terrorized by lynching, African Americans humiliated by racial segregation and Jim Crow, and people of color burdened with contemporary presumptions of guilt and police violence.

[Mississippi Civil Rights Museum](#): The Mississippi Civil Rights Museum, Jackson, Mississippi, shares the stories of a Mississippi movement that changed the nation. The museum promotes a greater understanding of the Mississippi Civil Rights Movement and its impact by highlighting the strength and sacrifices of its peoples. Visitors will witness the freedom struggle in eight interactive galleries that

show the systematic oppression of black Mississippians and their fight for equality that transformed the state and nation. Seven of the galleries encircle a central space called “This Little Light of Mine.” There, a dramatic sculpture glows brighter and the music of the Movement swells as visitors gather.

[National Civil Rights Museum at the Lorraine Motel](#): The **National Civil Rights Museum** is a complex of museums and historic buildings in Memphis, Tennessee; its exhibits trace the history of the civil rights movement in the United States from the 17th century to the present. The museum is built around the former **Lorraine Motel**, which was the site of the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr. in 1968; King died at St. Joseph's Hospital. Two other buildings and their adjacent property, also connected with the King assassination, have been acquired as part of the museum complex.

The museum reopened in 2014 after renovations that increased the number of multi-media and interactive exhibits, including numerous short movies to enhance features. The museum is owned and operated by the Lorraine Civil Rights Museum Foundation, based in Memphis. The Lorraine Motel is owned by the Tennessee State Museum and leased long term to the Foundation to operate as part of the museum complex. In 2016, the museum was honored by becoming a Smithsonian Affiliate museum.

[International Civil Rights Center and Museum](#): The International Civil Rights Center & Museum in Greensboro, North Carolina is an archival center, collecting museum and teaching facility devoted to the international struggle for civil and human rights. The Museum celebrates the nonviolent protests of the 1960 Greensboro sit-ins that served as a catalyst in the civil rights movement.

[Little Rock Central High School](#), the only operating high school in the nation to be designated a National Historic Site, is a place important beyond its past. Come and learn how the sacrifice and struggle endured by nine African American teenagers over a half century ago have provided opportunities and opened doors to those seeking equality – and education - around the world.

[The King Center \(Atlanta, Georgia\)](#): The center prepares global citizens to create a more just, humane and peaceful world using Dr. King’s nonviolent philosophy and methodology.

Mission Travel

An important way to expand your understanding of other cultures is to travel outside the United States. Most of our Florida churches have opportunities to travel for missions. Our Melbourne Church family has two full time missionaries in Honduras and at least once a year we send a group to work and serve. Unfortunately, COVID 19 has sidelined these kinds of trips for now.

Antiracism Resources for Kids

[The Conscious Kid](#)

We are an education, research, and policy organization dedicated to equity and promoting healthy racial identity development in youth. We support organizations, families, and educators in taking action to disrupt racism in young children.

[A Kids Book About Racism](#) by Jelani Memory

[Something Happened in Our Town: A Child's Story About Racial Injustice](#) by Marianne Celano and Marietta Collins

[Little Leaders: Bold Women in Black History](#) by Vashti Harrison

[Little Legends: Exceptional Men in Black History](#) by Vashti Harrison

[Separate Is Never Equal: Sylvia Mendez and Her Family's Fight for](#) Desegregation by Duncan Tonatiuh

[Schomburg: The Man Who Built a Library](#) by Carole Boston Weatherford and Eric Velasquez

[The Day You Begin](#) by Jacqueline Woodson and Rafael Lopez

[Sulwe](#) by Lupita Nyong'o

[When God Made You](#) by Matthew Paul Turner and David Catrow

Coaching, Seminar and Education Resources

www.bethebridge.com

Be the Bridge offers opportunities for education, antiracist resources, and interaction for people from many different people groups.

Leslie Garvin (prayzn@aol.com) and her husband, Khari, are members of the Deep River Church of Christ, a church made up of all races, cultures, and backgrounds. Leslie teaches and coaches church leaders and members how to face race as the body of Christ. She is completing her training to become a small group facilitator for Be The Bridge. She is Executive director at North Carolina Campus Compact a network of colleges and universities committed to educating students for civic and social responsibility, partnering with communities for positive change, and strengthening democracy. Leslie leads the Compact's deliberative dialogue initiative and has trained hundreds of individuals in this method which brings people together to find common ground for action on challenging public issues. She is a trained moderator and member of Braver Angels and also facilitates workshops on Theater of the Oppressed. Leslie holds a Master of Social Work with a concentration in social and economic development and a specialization in management, as well as a Bachelor of Arts in both political science and African American studies, from Washington University in St. Louis.

Major Boglin (major.boglin@nacofc.org) is the Director of the [Genesis Center](#), Dr. Boglin has an earned Ph.D. in Family Therapy and has been in the practice of mental and relational health for over 25 years. He is a Clinical Fellow and Approved Supervisor for the American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy. He practices therapy from the following treatment orientations: EEG Biofeedback also called Neurofeedback, Bowenian, Emotionally Focused (EFT), Cognitive Behavioral (CBT), and Solution Focused. He is also a qualified administrator for the IDI.

Jennifer Schroeder (jennifer.schroeder@nacofc.org) is the Children's Minister at North Atlanta Church of Christ in Atlanta, GA. She is a qualified administrator for the IDI. She has served in ministry for 16 years and has a deep desire to see children recognize their full potential as part of God's kingdom. She has an M.Div. Equivalency from Abilene Christian University with plans to begin work on her Doctor of Ministry degree at ACU in 2020. She holds a Doctor of Musical Arts degree from Michigan State University, a Master of Science in Family Life Education from Lubbock Christian University, and both a Master of Music and Bachelor of Music from the University of North Texas. Additionally, Dr. Schroeder holds Texas State Teaching Certificates in the areas of Special Education (All-Level), Music Education (All-Level), and Early Childhood through 4th Grade (Generalist)

[Steve Puckett \(smpuckster@gmail.com\)](mailto:smpuckster@gmail.com) is in his 37th year of preaching, teaching, and loving on the Melbourne Church of Christ and the residents of Brevard County, Florida. The church family he serves seeks to be a church of the nations. They represent a variety of ethnic groups and seek to be inclusive of all those who want to follow Christ. He serves on the steering committee for the EQUIP Workshop and oversees the technology needs for Equip. He is a regular presenter at Pepperdine Harbor. He serves one day a week as a Technology Assistant at Palm Bay Magnet High School. He is an avid reader. His interests include music of all types, computer hardware and software, language studies, guiding tours to Israel, hiking, and Alabama football. He and his wife, Cindy, have two grown daughters, Whitney and Kelsey and one very special granddaughter, Charlotte. Cindy is an adjunct professor at Eastern Florida State College, and they have been married for 41 years. He received his BA from Freed-Hardeman University and his Master of Theology from Harding School of Theology.

[Carl Spain Center](#)

The Carl Spain Center on Race Studies and Spiritual Action was founded in 2018 by Dr. Jerry Taylor, Associate Professor of Bible at ACU. Dr. Taylor chose to name the new center after Carl Spain, a legendary figure at ACU whose prophetic voice was a catalyst for change on the campus in the mid 1900's. The Carl Spain Center on Race Studies and Spiritual Action was created to honor the legacy of Carl Spain by conducting research on the historical and contemporary role of race and racism in the church and its Christian institutions. The Center heavily emphasizes spiritual formation by utilizing prayer, solitude, biblical meditation, and silence as methods to address racism that is often "spiritualized" in the hearts of Christians. You can host a (RULS) Racial Unity Leadership Summit or Racial Unity Leadership Retreat in your church. For more information contact Tryce Prince at (580) 399-1231 or email at carlspaincenter@gmail.com.

[Dr. Tony Roach God's Love Bank](#)

God's Love Bank is a program for living that helps you identify what's robbing you of your happiness. It gives you tools to fight and win your best life back. In his Doctoral studies, Dr. Roach built his thesis on, *A Biblical Model For Building New Self-Love In African American Males And Fathers*. Dr. Roach soon observed toxic behaviors in estranged father/son relationships. Even more, his research showed destructive behavior existed not only in father/son relationships, but in all broken relationships. He saw that Satan was destroying lives without people even knowing. Thus, God's Love Bank was born. Dr. Roach earned a Bachelor's of Science degree in Social Science from Hiram College in Hiram, Ohio [*Psychology, Sociology and Economics*], a Master's of Science in Ministry and Evangelism from Abilene Christian University in Abilene, Texas, and a Doctor of Divinity degree in Marriage and Family also from Abilene Christian University.

[Carlos Carbajal \(abforjesus@gmail.com\)](mailto:abforjesus@gmail.com) is the Youth/Family and Preaching Minister for Sunset Church of Christ in Miami. Married to Karla for 12 years, born and raised in Honduras and doing ministry in the US since 2011. He has been involved in different projects with the local community in the area of immigration and outreach to minority groups. He trains youth leaders in Latin America, empowering them with tools and ministry guidance on how to effectively present Jesus to the new generations.