

## 4/15/18: Faith & Justice Wk 2-- Group Discussion Questions

### Opening:

- What's one thing that's been happening in your life since we met last?
- When you hear the term "multiethnic" what does it prompt you to think?
- What experiences have you had that seemed to highlight or encourage racial awareness or other kinds of "unity within diversity"? *These experiences could be, but are not limited to occurrences in the church.*
- Have you had experiences on the opposite side of the spectrum, that seemed to foster racial division?

### Discussion (CHOOSE only those that fit your Group and your time! )

- What stood out to you from Pastor Jon's interview with Pastors Hong & Eldie?
- Jon's primary Scripture text this week was 1 Corinthians 1:10. Read it aloud together. What stands out to you?
- This week, Jon began his teaching on the multi-ethnic church with the statement that being a multi-ethnic church is actually essential to the gospel. Why is this a challenging statement?
- What does Scripture say? Consider having different members read aloud some or all of the following. 1 Corinthians 1:10, Matthew 28:19, Galatians 3:28, 1 Corinthians 12:25, Psalm 67, Philippians 2:9-11, Revelation 15:4. What do these verses say about God's plan for his church, specifically as it relates to race/cultural difference?
- Pastor Eldie talked about comfort vs. conviction as it relates to engaging with people/cultures different from us. Think about your regular interactions each week. How often do you find yourself in direct contact with people who are significantly different from you?
  - What are some ways we can prepare ourselves **internally** to choose conviction over comfort when we spend time with people from different cultural or racial backgrounds? *Question our assumptions/judgments/first impressions, expect to learn something new/valuable, etc.*
  - What are some **actions** we can take to choose conviction over comfort? *Start/join a conversation, listen attentively, make an invitation, share a meal, offer help, etc.*
  - What are some things we can **do as a church** to choose conviction over comfort and embrace more fully the unity God calls us to?
- Jon gave 5 steps Practices for us to take to move toward our calling to "value and model the miracle of unity in diversity". Prayer, Giving not Getting, Greeting, Eating & Sharing the Pain.
  - In which of these practices are you actively engaged?
  - In which of these do you need to take steps to grow?
- What is one step that God is calling you take in this coming week to move toward modeling the miracle of unity in diversity?

### Break for smaller group Prayer

## Additional Resources:

- **Video Series:** <http://www.vergenetwork.org/racial-justice-series/>
  - These are 10 excellent, Jesus-following videos ranging from 3 to 35 minutes, featuring many key leaders in the church's racial justice movement
- **Books:** There are more than I could possibly include, but consider --
  - Disunity in Christ: Uncovering the Hidden Forces that Keep Us Apart. By Christina Cleveland
  - Divided by Faith: Evangelical Religion and the Problem of Race in America. By Michael O. Emerson and Christian Smith
  - United by Faith: The Multiracial Congregation as an Answer to the Problem of Race. Curtiss Paul DeYoung, Michael O. Emerson, George Yancey and Karen Chai Kim
  - Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption. By Bryan Stevenson
  - The Cross and the Lynching Tree. By James H. Cone