



Prayer Topics & Guide for the Whole Family

1. Every life is valuable, and every person is our neighbor.

- All people are created in the image of God (Genesis 1:27, Psalm 8:5).
- God made each person and has specific plans for their life (Psalm 139:13-16, Ephesians 2:10).
- Jesus tells us the second most important command is love our neighbor as ourselves (the first is to love God). And all people are our neighbors no matter how similar or different they are. (Mark 12:28-34, Luke 10:25-37).
- When we are a part of God's family, we all belong to God no matter what differences we may have - like race, gender, where we come from, social status, or any other difference we may have. (Galatians 3:26-29).
- God does not want us to favor/show partiality to any people because they are all created and loved by God (James 2:1-9).

2. God loves and cares for those who are not treated fairly.

- God wants justice for all people and wants us to help bring justice to all people. (Psalm 82:3-4, Proverbs 21:15, Micah 6:8).

3. When we see something wrong, we should say that it is wrong.

- Jesus modeled this during his life (Matthew 23:1-36, Luke 11:37-53).

4. God created us with emotions. It's okay to feel sad or upset about what's going on.

- God is sad when He sees the world sinning and not following his ways (Jeremiah 8:18-9:3, Hosea 11:8-9).
- Jesus weeps and laments for the city of Jerusalem because He knew of all their sin and the pain would be coming to them as a result (Matthew 23:37-39, Luke 19:41-44).
- Jesus was angry when he saw sin at the temple. But he did not allow his anger to cause him to sin. It is okay to be angry at what is going on, but we too cannot let our anger lead us to do wrong things. (Matthew 21:12-14, Ephesians 4:26-27).

5. God wants us as followers of Jesus to be unified and to share the love of Jesus with others.

- Jesus prayed for all believers to be unified (John 17:20-23).
- We need to show compassion to those who are hurting or don't know Jesus, like Jesus did for others and does for us. (Mark 6:34, Matthew 9:35-36, Luke 10:25-37)



Pray as Family . . .

1. Pray that God's value of every person would be demonstrated . . .
In your individual hearts and lives
Through your family in your circles of influence
Within our community, city, state, and nation.
2. Express your sorrow and your concerns regarding the hurt and damage of racism and injustice.
3. Pray for racial justice in all segments of our society and for healing of the destruction and pain brought by racism and injustice.
4. Pray for unity among Christ-followers of all races in loving one another and sharing the love of Jesus.

So where do we go from here?

Parents, we have a part in changing the way our culture treats others and it starts by learning ourselves and changing the conversation within our homes. After reviewing the above scriptures together, use these two questions to continue the conversation about this very important topic with your kids.

1. In a time when voices of the world are screaming from every side, what does God tell us is eternally true?
2. What have you heard about what is going on and how does it make you feel?"

It's okay if you don't have all the answers; few of us do. Tell your kids "I don't know" when you don't know. But remind them that no matter the worries, doubts, fears, or questions we have, God is all powerful and knows the answers to all those questions. Remind them they can take comfort in God because of who He is (Psalm 23, Psalm 91).

Here are two helpful articles to help you to continue to grow and discuss this topic. They are from our fabulous Parent Cue resource that you can dial into at any time to glean wisdom on a vast number of topics:

[Why You Need to Talk About Race with Your Kids](#)
[Raising Kids Who Will Initiate Racial Equality](#)