

Session Five

Read the following sections on page 12-16 of the Response Document:

A. We Reflect

Biblical Reference: Luke 10:25-37

1. How do we make certain that, when considering the issues of inequity and injustice, we do not permit the “complexities” of this era to become a disguise for covering latent racism—particularly when/if the evidence of inequity/injustice is manifest primarily along racial lines?
2. Examine the critique, made by Anglo religious leadership 50 years ago, of Dr. King’s method and sense of urgency in confronting racial injustice in Birmingham. How does that critique made then differ from the assessment of the methods of engagement made by CCT from today’s struggle?

B. We Confess

Biblical Reference: Matthew 25:41-46

1. Is there a difference in the essences of the call to repentance by Anglo churches and those of the historic black denominations when those responses to the crisis of racial justice 50 years ago were different? Is there a difference in responses today?
2. What laws now are unjust and hence call us to the moral challenge of confronting and changing them? (e.g. voting restriction laws, minimum wage laws, immigration laws)
3. In what ways do racism and injustice violate the integrity of their victims? In what ways do they demean the personhood of their perpetrators?

C. We Thank

Biblical Reference: Matthew 25:34-40

1. Cite and discuss and recent efforts toward racial reconciliation in the Christian community?

2. Are you aware of your denominations staff/departments dedicated to undoing racism and fostering multicultural ministry? What is the funding level? Does its work permeate the total denominational structure?

D. We Resolve

Biblical Reference: James 1:22; 2:14-24

1. Does your local church and denominational curricula teach the story of the Civil Rights Movement—exposing the inequities and injustices of the times then and now?
2. What about public school curricula in your area?
3. Cite specific ways of carrying out the resolves.