

## Speak, O Lord: Prejudice and Racism

Galatians 3:26-29, Luke 6:37-38

Prejudice: preconceived judgment or opinion; an adverse opinion or leaning formed without just grounds or before sufficient knowledge.

Racism: prejudice or discrimination directed against someone of a different race based on the belief that one's own race is superior.

How does God's word speak regarding the reality of prejudice within me and my culture?

1. Prejudice has no place among Christians because racial, economic, and gender barriers, and all other perceived inequalities, are removed in Christ. Galatians 3:26-29



**Prejudice and Racism** 

When I am made a part of Jesus Christ, all the divisions and prejudices that matter so much in the world are abolished.

God does not value one race or ethnicity over another. All humans must be treated in light of God's love in Christ.

God does not value people for their economic contribution to society. Christians are not to contribute to the economic or physical oppression of humans or show favoritism to the wealthy.

God does not value males over females. Christians are not to treat women as inferior or exclude them from taking their Godgiven place in the body of Christ.

**Christians are liberated from** the demonic forces of racism, materialism, and sexism, not because we conform to the political correctness of the world, but because we are all made new in Christ.

# How do I need to repent from my prejudices regarding race, socioeconomic status, and gender?

2. Jesus warns prejudiced Christians they will be judged by the same harsh, judgmental standards they apply to others. Luke 6:37-38

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# "Do not judge" -**Christians will not** form negative judgements about a person's merit, worth, or value.

Jesus forbids "status by negation," feeling better about myself by seeing others as worse; arrogance and hostility to the worldly and morally lax, viewing such people as beyond God's reach.

"Do not condemn" -**Christians will pursue God's** redemptive purposes for all people, seeing God's possibilities for each person regardless of his or her sinful actions.

## **Christians will forgive** and express to others the depth and breadth of the mercy of God they experience in Christ.

Jesus promises that those who are generous in these matters will receive generosity from God.

#### **Children's Hygiene Kits:**

- Crayon Box
- Bar of Soap
- Comb
- Toothbrush
- 4 lollipops
- Coloring book
- 2 laffy taffy

- 2.75 oz toothpaste
- 1.5 oz roll-on antiperspirant
- 4 oz shampoo
- 2 oz body lotion
- A card with a note of encouragement and prayer



How do I allow the undeserved love and forgiveness I receive from Christ to shape my response to others who may not deserve it?