

# racial righteousness

## - BIBLIOGRAPHY (ABRIDGED) -

*Of special note:*



### **COMMUNITY ACTION**

*Linking Arms, Linking Lives: How Urban-Suburban Partnerships Can Transform Communities*, by Wayne L. Gordon and John M. Perkins and Ronald J. Sider and F. Albert Tizon (Baker, 2008) ISBN 0-8010-7083-X

These ministry leaders offer solutions that have already transformed communities and have potential to allow many more people to fulfill the biblical call to compassion and justice. Here they make a compelling case for how partnerships that cross the urban-suburban divide can minister to the poor.

### **CROSS-CULTURAL / MULTI-ETHNIC**

*Being White: Finding Our Place in a Multiethnic World*, by Paul Harris and Doug Schaupp (InterVarsity, 2004) ISBN 0830832475

The authors present a Christian model of what it means to be white. They wrestle through the history of how those in the majority have oppressed minority cultures, but they also show that whites have their own cultural and ethnic identity with its own distinctive traits and contributions. They demonstrate that white people have a key role to play in the work of racial reconciliation and the forging of a more just society. Filled with real-life stories, life-transforming insights and practical guidance, this book is for any white who is aware of racial inequality but has wondered, So what do I do? Discover here a vision for just communities where whites can use their influence to empower those of other ethnicities.

*The Bush Was Blazing but Not Consumed*, by Eric H.F. Law (Chalice Press) ISBN 0827202229

Using Exodus 3 as a theological starting point, the author provides practical guidelines for increasing understanding and sensitivity related to multiculturalism, enabling the building of multicultural communities.

*The Color of Water: A Black Man's Tribute to His White Mother*, by James McBride (Riverhead Books, New York) ISBN 1573225789

This is the story of a rabbi's daughter, born in Poland and raised in the South, who fled to Harlem, married a Black man, founded a Baptist church, and put twelve children through college. The Color of Water is James McBride's tribute to his remarkable, eccentric, determined mother – and an eloquent exploration of what family really means.

*Cross-Cultural Conflict*, by Duane Elmer (InterVarsity) ISBN 0-8308-1657-7

The author offers a thorough and practical handbook for conflict resolution across Asian, Hispanic, African and Western cultures.

*Crossing Cultures, a Beginner's Guide*, by Patty Lane (InterVarsity Press) – *out of print*

The author attempts to answer difficult questions related to the challenge of building relationships in communities that are rapidly changing culturally and ethnically. She provides practical resources for finding our way through multicultural environments with sensitivity and understanding.

*Multicultural Ministry: Finding Your Church's Unique Rhythm* by David Anderson (Zondervan, 2004) ISBN 0310251583

A practical guide to multicultural ministry in a changing America, with motivating stories and examples from the author's personal experiences in successful multicultural ministry. It also offers practical how-to ideas from a wide circle of churches.

### **ETHNIC IDENTITY**

*The Hispanic Challenge*, by Manuel Ortiz (InterVarsity) ISBN 0-8308-1773-5

The author explores the unique needs and concerns of Hispanics in the U.S., overviews population changes, addresses key missiological issues and concerns for justice, describes models for effective ministry, and emphasizes the need for leadership training.

*Good News from the Barrio: Prophetic Witness for the Church*,

by Harold J. Recinos (Westminster John Knox Press, 2005) ISBN 0664229409

In a world divided by race, ethnicity, gender, violence, and hate, Harold Recinos's *Good News from the Barrio* explores the ways in which the good news of the gospel is at work in Latino barrios. He challenges Christians to listen to the gospel in these contexts and offer a prophetic witness to the nation and the church.

### **MULTI-ETHNIC CONGREGATIONS**

*United by Faith: The Multiracial Congregation as an Answer to the Problem of Race*, by Curtiss Paul DeYoung, Michael O. Emerson, et. al. (Oxford University Press) ISBN 0195152158

This is a critical account of the theological arguments in favor of racial separation, as voiced in the African-American, Latino, Asian-American, Native-American and white contexts. The authors respond in detail, closing with a foundation for a theology suited to sustaining multiracial congregations over time and making the church the basis for racial reconciliation.

*Why Are All the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria? And Other Conversations About Race*, by Beverly Daniel Tatum. (Basic Books, 1999 revised edition) ISBN 0465091296

Anyone who's been to a high school or college has noted how students of the same race seem to stick together. Beverly Daniel Tatum has noticed it too, and she doesn't think it's so bad. As she explains in this provocative, though not-altogether-convincing book, these students are in the process of establishing and affirming their racial identity. As Tatum sees it, blacks must secure a racial identity free of negative stereotypes. The challenge to whites, on which she expounds, is to give up the privilege that their skin color affords and to work actively to combat injustice in society.

*The Wolf Shall Dwell with the Lamb: Spirituality for Leadership in a Multicultural Community*, by Eric H.F. Law (Chalice Press) ISBN 082724231X

Using a combination of theology and cultural anthropology, the author, a Chinese-American, explores why certain cultures—most notably whites of Northern European origin—tend, consciously or unconsciously, to dominate in multicultural situations, driving those of other races and ethnic groups to silent rage or outright rebellion. Only through conscious effort and great faith can the wolves and the lambs of the world really dwell together in peace.

### **RACIAL RECONCILIATION**

*The Church Enslaved: A Spirituality For Racial Reconciliation*, by Tony Campolo and Michael Battle (Augsburg Fortress, 2005) ISBN 080063697X

The authors directly challenge the churches to resume leadership in overcoming and redressing America's legacy of racial segregation. They expose the realities of racial division in the churches and then lift up a vision of a church without racism. The authors provide a blueprint for how racially reconciled churches can encourage activism in the cities, church involvement in politics, and responsible use of the Bible, ultimately helping to transform American society itself.

*Dismantling Racism: The Continuing Challenge to White America*, by Joseph Barndt (Augsburg Fortress) ISBN 0806625767

The author focuses on the task of dismantling racism, how we can work to bring it to an end and build a racially just, multiracial, multicultural society. This book calls us to begin our next assault on the demonic evil of racism.

*Divided by Faith*, by Michael O. Emerson and Christian Smith (Oxford University Press) ISBN 0195147073

Based on their own research, the authors argue that evangelicals have a theological world view that makes it difficult for them to perceive systematic injustices in society. As a result, many well-meaning strategies for healing racial divisions (such as cross-cultural friendships) carry within them the seeds of their own defeat. The book also includes a concise history of evangelical thought about race from colonial times to the civil rights movement.

*Enter the River: Healing Steps from White Privilege Toward Racial Reconciliation*, by Jody Miller Shearer (Herald Press) ISBN 0836136608

After asking, "Why be concerned about racism?" Shearer explores definitions of prejudice and racism, the different effects of racism on white persons and people of color, affirmative action, and many other issues. The accessible presentation provides a strong foundation for study and action.

*Gracism: The Art of Inclusion*, by David A. Anderson (InterVarsity, 2007) ISBN 978-0-8308-3440-2

The author responds to prejudice and injustice with the principle of gracism: radical inclusion for the marginalized and excluded. Building on Paul's exhortations in 1 Corinthians 12 to honor the weaker member, Anderson presents a biblical model for showing special grace to others on the basis of color, class or culture. A Christian alternative to secular models of affirmative action or colorblindness, gracism is an opportunity to extend God's grace to people of all backgrounds.

*The Heart of Racial Justice: How Soul Change Leads to Social Change*, by Brenda Salter McNeil and Rick Richardson (InterVarsity, 2004) ISBN 08030832696

The authors reveal a new model of racial reconciliation, social justice and spiritual healing that creates both individual and community transformation. They show you how to: use your faith as a force for change, not as a smoke-screen for self-protection; embrace your true self and

renounce false racial identities; receive and extend forgiveness as an act of racial reconciliation; experience personal transformation through the healing of painful racial memories; engage in social action by developing ongoing cross-cultural partnerships.

*He's My Brother*, by John Perkins and Thomas A. Tarrants, III (Chosen Books) ISBN 0800792149  
A black man brutalized by white racists and a former white leader in the Ku Klux Klan tell their stories and call for Christian reconciliation across cultural boundaries.

*It's the Little Things: Everyday Interactions That Anger, Annoy, and Divide the Races*, by Lena Williams (Harvest, 2002) ISBN 0-15-601348-7

Although we no longer live in a legally segregated society, the division between blacks and whites never seems to go away. We work together, go to school together, and live near each other, but beneath it all there is a level of misunderstanding that breeds mistrust and a level of miscommunication that generates anger. In this book, the author looks at the interactions between blacks and whites—the gestures, expressions, tones, and body language that keep us divided.

*Living in the Shadows of a Legend: Unsung Heroes and Sheroes Who Marched With Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*, by Deric A. Gilliard (Gilliard Communications, 2002) ISBN 0971813701

Deric Gilliard (a pastor in the Evangelical Covenant Church) does an excellent job of chronicling the lives and times of twenty individuals whose selfless contributions added to the Civil Rights movement. It is a definite read for those seeking greater knowledge and understanding of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and the civil rights movement.

*More Than Equals: Revised and Expanded*, by Spencer Perkins and Chris Rice (InterVarsity) ISBN 0830822569

After growing up in two different worlds, the authors were brought together by God to become friends and partners in the difficult ministry of racial reconciliation. From their experience, they offer hope that whites and African-Americans can live together in peace. This revised edition includes a new introduction, new afterward, a new study guide, and a new chapter by Perkins, "Playing the Grace of God."

*My First White Friend*, by Patricia Raybon (Penguin) ISBN 0140244360

Newspaper columnist, writer and NPR commentator Patricia Raybon admits that she hated whites for years. Eventually, she found an alternative: forgiveness. The first part of the book is a series of essays on the life experiences of herself and her father, and the racial history of the country; it ends with "Letter to My First White Friend," a grateful acknowledgment of a white girl at her mostly white high school. In part two of the book, further essays explore the process of moving beyond hate, and the new world it has opened up for Raybon.

*No Easy Walk*, by Harry Louis Williams II (InterVarsity) ISBN 0-8308-1792-1

This book traces the long and difficult journey of African-Americans, paying special attention to the distinctiveness and influence of the African-American church in the world.

*Picking Cotton: Our Memoir of Injustice and Redemption*, by Jennifer Thompson and Ronald Cotton (St. Martin's Press, 2009) ISBN 0312376537

Jennifer Thompson was raped at knifepoint by a man who broke into her apartment while she slept. She was able to escape, and eventually positively identified Ronald Cotton as her attacker. Ronald insisted that she was mistaken-- but Jennifer's positive identification was the compelling evidence that put him behind bars. After eleven years, Ronald was allowed to take a DNA test that proved his innocence. He was released, after serving more than a decade in prison for a crime he never committed. Two years later, Jennifer and Ronald met face to face-- and forged an

unlikely friendship that changed both of their lives. In their own words, Jennifer and Ronald unfold the harrowing details of their tragedy, and challenge our ideas of memory and judgment while demonstrating the profound nature of human grace and the healing power of forgiveness.

*Reconciliation Blues: A Black Evangelical's Inside View of White Christianity*, by Edward Gilbreath (InterVarsity, 2006) ISBN 0830833676

Gilbreath gives an insightful, honest picture of both the history and the present state of racial reconciliation in evangelical churches. Charting progress as well as setbacks, his words offer encouragement for black evangelicals feeling alone, clarity for white evangelicals who want to understand more deeply, and fresh vision for all who want to move forward toward Christ's prayer "that all of them may be one."

*Reconciliation: Our Greatest Challenge—Our Only Hope*, by Curtiss Paul DeYoung (Judson Press, 1997) ISBN 0817012567

DeYoung considers reconciliation in its broadest sense and illustrates practical approaches concerning gender, culture, class, and nationalism. The core of *Reconciliation* describes what is essential for actually engaging in the process of reconciliation: taking responsibility, seeking forgiveness, repairing the wrong, healing the soul, and creating a new way of relating.

### **For Youth**

*The Justice Mission*, by Jim Hancock and the International Justice Mission (Youth Specialties/Zondervan) ISBN 0-310-24255X

Beyond summer mission trips, child sponsorship, and personal piety, justice is the next step in doing what Jesus would do. This curriculum is interactive, thought-provoking, and will engage youth groups in God's call to seek justice on the earth. The kit includes a 40-minute segmented video and Leader's Guide.

*Deep Justice in a Broken World: Helping Your Kids Serve Others and Right the Wrongs Around Them*, by Chap Clark and Kara Powell (Zondervan/Youth Specialties, 2008) ISBN 0310273773

This book gives youth workers the opportunity to go beyond simply trying to motivate kids to serve those in need and invites them to help their kids wrestle with why those people are in need in the first place. Specific topics that will be addressed include the out-of-the-box Jesus, the power of repentance, biblically grounded motivations for service, the power of community, as well as how to respond to the poverty, racism and unequal power relationships that abound nationally and internationally.

*Deep Justice Journeys Leader's Guide: 50 Activities to Move from Mission Trips to Missional Living*, by Kara Powell and Brad Griffin (Zondervan, 2009) ISBN 0310286034

The lessons included will help you prepare students for what to expect on their mission trip and service work and will allow them to reflect upon their experiences—ensuring justice work that changes students to change the world around them. Also includes ideas to help get parents and the church engaged in the youth ministry's justice work. NOTE: A corresponding Student Journal is also available.

### **For Children and Families**

*40 Ways to Raise a Nonracist Child*, by Barbara Mathias and Mary Ann French (Harper) ISBN 0-06-273322-2

Ultimately, the only way to rid our society of the evil of racism is to teach our children that color is not an indication of a person's worth.

*Hand in Hand Leader's Guide: Helping Children Celebrate Diversity*, by Ella Campbell, et. al. (Faith Alive Resources, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition) ISBN 1-59255-429-6

Help kids in grades K-6 learn to appreciate and celebrate the diversity in God's family with this flexible five-session course.

### **Seminars/Events**

*Sankofa Journey* – "Sankofa" is a West African term meaning looking backward to move forward. Sponsored by the Department of Christian Formation and the Office of Compassion and Justice, a Sankofa Journey is a 62-hour bus trip in which individuals visit places in the south where racial injustices were committed against African-Americans in the past. It increases one's awareness, understanding and sensitivity for the past struggles, victories, and continuing racist oppression of our brothers and sisters of Color; how far we have come—and how far we have to go. For further information, contact the Covenant Resource Center, 1-800-338-IDEA(4332) or [resource.center@covchurch.org](mailto:resource.center@covchurch.org).

*Invitation to Racial Righteousness* – The "Invitation" will be brought to local Covenant churches, at their request, and will be facilitated by trained Covenant leaders. The focus is on learning that leads to personal change in the area of racial reconciliation and justice. Our hope is that the Evangelical Covenant Church would become a truer reflection of the Kingdom of Christ in all its beautiful diversity. For further information, contact the Covenant Resource Center, 1-800-338-IDEA(4332) or [resource.center@covchurch.org](mailto:resource.center@covchurch.org).

*J2M (Journey to Mosaic)* - A ministry of several regional conferences within the ECC, this multicultural experience expands the Sankofa concept to explore historical and present-day injustices related to the Asian-American, Latino-American, American Indian, and African-American communities. <http://www.pswc.org/>; <http://www.covchurch-npc.org>.

*j2m<sup>2</sup> (Journey to Mosaic Squared)* – **Journey to Mosaic Squared** –The goal of j2m<sup>2</sup> is to build Kingdom vision into the hearts of young adults ages 18-24 in the Pacific Southwest Conference. It is a three-week residential experience where up to twelve emerging leaders live together. Biblical teaching, experiential opportunities, life in community, and fun times challenge participants to look at the beginning of adulthood through Jesus' eyes. Go to [www.pswc.org](http://www.pswc.org) for more info or an application.

### **Sources/Web Sites**

*Anti-Racism Institute of Clergy and Laity Concerned*

This alliance offers resources to church leaders, including packets on "Racism and the Church" and "Racism and Education." Call 312.427.4830

*Crossroads: An Interfaith Ministry for Racial Justice*

This group provides anti-racism training to groups, with an emphasis on working with church and denominational systems. There are branches in Chicago (773.638.0166), Milwaukee (414.871.4045), and New York City (212.866.2406).

*Ethnic America Network*

<http://www.ethnic-america.net/>

A coalition of over sixty evangelical denominations encouraging local churches to share Christ's love with the growing ethnic diversity in our communities. The focus is on reaching 1st and 2nd generation immigrants in America with the gospel of Jesus Christ.

*Ethnic Harvest:* [www.ethnicarvest.org](http://www.ethnicarvest.org)

A site dedicated to helping spread the gospel to many language and people groups, here you can find Bible translations, demographic information, and links to evangelism tools.

*Tolerance.Org project:* [www.tolerance.org](http://www.tolerance.org)

Professional web site from the Southern Poverty Law Center that highlights the disturbing presence of hate and white supremacist groups still thriving in the USA. You can visit this site to learn about the roots of racism and "dig deeper" into your own history, take action or protest hate groups, get specific resources for kids/teens/adults/teachers, or read about race issues in the news.

NOTE: For a more extensive bibliography related to racial righteousness, go to [www.covchurch.org/resource-center](http://www.covchurch.org/resource-center) or contact the Covenant Resource Center as noted below.

Prepared by the Covenant Resource Center and the Department of Compassion, Mercy and Justice

1-800-338-IDEA(4332)

[resource.center@covchurch.org](mailto:resource.center@covchurch.org)

[www.covchurch.org/resource-center](http://www.covchurch.org/resource-center)

While not specifically endorsed by the Evangelical Covenant Church, the above resources may be helpful as you plan for ministry. For additional assistance or suggestions, contact the Covenant Resource Center at 1-800-338-IDEA(4332) or [resource.center@covchurch.org](mailto:resource.center@covchurch.org). Watch for updated bibliographies at [www.covchurch.org/resource-center](http://www.covchurch.org/resource-center).