



FROM CHAOS AND CRISIS TO COMMUNITY IN CHRIST
The Church Addresses Systemic Racism through
CONFESSION, REPENTANCE, RECONCILIATION, RESTORATION & COMMITMENT

1. **Salvation, becoming a fully devoted follower of Christ:** (John 3:16; Romans 10:9) Commitment to receive salvation through Jesus Christ or get more information about developing a relationship with Him.
2. **Follower of Jesus Christ who stands against Systemic Racism personally and publicly:** (2 Corinthians 5:16-20) -- Acknowledging that I am a fully devoted follower of Jesus Christ is an acknowledgement that the crucifixion of Jesus, death, burial and resurrection was for salvation for all peoples. It is an acknowledgement that Jesus is King of kings and Lord of lords above all. That acknowledgement should compel me to take a stand against all forms of injustice—including systemic racism both personally and publicly. It is also an acknowledgement that there is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for we are all one in Christ Jesus. This acknowledgement requires repentance that is demonstrated through words and deeds. It is an acknowledgement that systems exist and were designed to exclude, marginalize and even rob certain people groups of their value, assets and worth to the whole of society. Jesus' command to love one another as He has loved us is a command to be willing to surrender my life, and my inherited privileges for others.
3. **Relationship through Fellowship:** (Micah 6:8, Romans 12:3-5, Malachi 2:10) – Commitment to ongoing participation in virtual and, when able, in-person groups that are diversified by race, ethnicity and Christian tradition. It is first and foremost about developing relationships in Christ that seek to model a “Jesus-centered” example of how humankind must interact with one another—to the glory of God. Secondly, it involves coming together in non-agenda settings to “hear” one another, to expand our knowledge and understanding of cultures, traditions and the lived experience of people who are different than ourselves. It means committing to seeing one another as God sees us, and thinking, speaking and acting toward one another accordingly.
4. **Discipleship:** (Acts 2:43-47) -- Commitment to learning and working together to get a greater understanding of systemic racism as a sin against God, its demonic roots, as well as how it has been perpetuated in modern society. This includes an in-depth look into what the Bible teaches about racial and ethnic groups; how in America, some have benefited from and/or have been blocked by systemic racism; and looking to the word of God for answers as to how it can be defeated. It involves thinking and acting together on levels of systemic racism that plague systems in our nation, and helping each other discover our God-ordained role in dismantling this demonic scourge that has infected and affected individuals, families and the very fabric of American society.
5. **Prayer:** (II Chronicles 7:14, John 17) -- Commitment to ongoing prayer, confession, repentance. This involves continual seeking God together for answers to how I and others as Christians can reconcile with one another in the Church and how we minister reconciliation back to God and His Christ to our nation and the generations. It also includes praying for God to give us a 7-fold spirit as we seek to walk together: of wisdom, understanding, knowledge, sound counsel, might, reverence and the guidance of the Holy Spirit of the Lord.
6. **Giving:** (Luke 19:1-10; Amos 5:24) -- Commitment to contribute to the development and sustaining of this work of Biblical justice. Zacchaeus—after his encounter with Jesus—was compelled to make restitution to those that had been treated unfairly. Jesus' response to his willingness to pay restitution is an acknowledgement of salvation that had come to his house. Zacchaeus volunteered to stop working for his own wealth in collaboration with Caesar's kingdom and start working for justice for the poor by collaborating with God's kingdom. I commit to giving to restore what injustice has taken from others.