

# Confronting **Racism** as Spiritual Practice

*Book Study and Discussion hosted by  
DaySpring Baptist Church*



**Session 4: From Civil Rights to Black Lives Matter**

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# Opening Prayer

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## **Confronting Racism as Spiritual Practice**



## Today's Topics

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- Addressing Conflict
- The Moderate Position
- Black Lives Matter

In breakout groups, you'll have an opportunity to share your reflections.



## Addressing Conflict

- ⦿ There is no way to confront racism without encountering conflict.
- ⦿ A commitment to nonviolence does not require avoiding confrontation.
- ⦿ Racism itself is antagonistic. We cannot dismantle the system without expecting resistance.
- ⦿ Christian churches have a role in promoting hope, reconciliation, and perseverance.

*This group of mostly Christian, white moderates —which included Baptists, Methodists, a Presbyterian, and a Jewish Rabbi—contended that civil rights remedies should be pursued through litigation instead of through boycotts and marches: “When rights are consistently denied, a cause should be pressed in the courts and in negotiations among local leaders, not in the streets.” While they recognized King’s rhetoric of nonviolence, they believed that his tactics would actually undermine democracy and increase the likelihood of bloodshed.*

*What comes through in the letter, more than anything else, is their reasonableness*



*-p. 137, The Color of Compromise*



## Black Lives Matter

- ⦿ End the War on Black People
- ⦿ Reparations
- ⦿ Invest - Divest
- ⦿ Economic Justice
- ⦿ Community Control
- ⦿ Political Power
- ⦿ Respect Protestors
- ⦿ COVID-19

The Preamble

END THE WAR ON BLACK COMMUNITIES

END THE WAR ON BLACK YOUTH

END THE WAR ON BLACK WOMEN

END THE WAR ON BLACK TRANS, QUEER,  
GENDER NONCONFORMING AND INTERSEX  
PEOPLE

END THE WAR ON BLACK HEALTH AND BLACK  
DISABLED PEOPLE

END THE WAR ON BLACK MIGRANTS

END TO ALL JAILS, PRISONS, AND  
IMMIGRATION DETENTION

END THE DEATH PENALTY

END THE WAR ON DRUGS

END THE SURVEILLANCE ON BLACK  
COMMUNITIES

END TO PRETRIAL DETENTION AND MONEY  
BAIL

THE DEMILITARIZATION OF LAW  
ENFORCEMENT

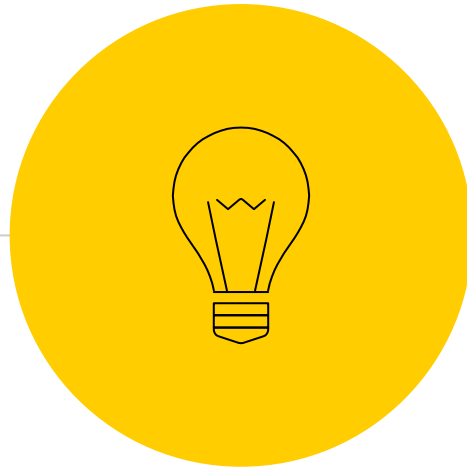
END THE USE OF PAST CRIMINAL HISTORY



**We Demand an End to the War Against Black People:**

We demand an end to the criminalization, incarceration, and killing of our people. We call for not just individual accountability of officers after a murder, but entire police departments.





# Freewrite

What kinds of conflict am I willing to confront to fight racism?

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**Break until 5:00 pm**

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## Breakout groups



# Thanks!

*Any questions ?*



## Credits

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Special thanks to all the people who made and released these awesome resources for free:

● Presentation template by [SlidesCarnival](#)

● Photographs by [Unsplash](#)



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