

Peacemakers: "Racial Reconciliation" November 9 & 10

Speaker: Latasha Morrison

Scripture: Ephesians 6:14; John 17:17; John 14:6; Zechariah 2:11; Acts 13:47-48; Isaiah 49:6; John 8:32; Matthew 6:10

Series Overview

Jesus taught, "blessed are the peacemakers," and then He backed this up with teaching after teaching to help us live this out. For the next six weeks, we'll study and practice the art of peacemaking. We'll focus on the teachings of Jesus and our response will be our missional calling into the world.

Series Question

How can your practice the following four ways of being a peacemaker this week?

- 1. Ask anything
- 2. Listen well
- 3. Disagree freely
- 4. Love regardless

Sermon Overview

Our speaker, Latasha Morrison, is a leading advocate for racial reconciliation in our society. Latasha is the Founder and President of <u>Be the Bridge</u>. Be the Bridge is an organization whose mission is to "empower people and cultures towards racial healing, equity, and reconciliation."

Sermon Questions

What was something new you learned listening to Latasha Morrison's message?

Ephesians 6:14 says, "Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth..." Latasha mentioned that truth is the foundation of peacemaking and that if you don't have the belt, the whole armor falls off. In what ways do you see truth being important in peacemaking?

Ethnicity reflects a unique aspect of God's image. If we were all created in the image of God, what does that say about ethnic diversity? What does that say about the nature of God?

What are some ways we can dive in and celebrate the stories of other cultures around us?

Latasha said, "Not everything that is legal is just and not everything that is just is legal. The kingdom of God is set apart from the systems of the world." How can we deconstruct our cultural identity alongside our faith identity as followers of Jesus?

Practical Application

- □ Latasha Morrison mentioned the Rwandan Genocide and their story of reconciliation. Spend some time <u>learning more</u> about how the Rwandans have paved the way for reconciliation in their society.
- □ Visit a local museum about the history of different people groups in your city.
- Write out some of the things you've learned about race relations in America from this message. Have any of the things you've read or heard led you to lament? Take some time to write out your lament, then read your lament out loud to a friend or your group.
- □ Consider leading a <u>Be the Bridge</u> group next semester. To learn more about how you can get involved email <u>groups@theaterchurch.com</u>.