

Hello Wayfinders Students!

I want to start with telling you all how proud I am of you. You have triumphed through change in school, family, social life, church, culture, a pandemic and many more. Although these struggles may not be over yet, I want to thank you for going through this journey with me of loving first, doing life together, and living the story during this pandemic.

There is much brokenness in our world today and I challenge you to ask God to break your heart for what breaks God's. I'm sure most of our instagrams, tiktoks, snapchat, etc. are flooded with information on the topic of race in our country. While sometimes it may feel like being blasted with a fire hose of different information, I challenge you to keep doing what I have seen many of you doing already, loving first. As we empathize with the oppressed and speak out against these injustices, those must just be starting points. We must radically love our neighbor. Jesus gives us examples of combating injustice through the Good Samaritan, the beatitudes, and leaving the 99 sheep for the 1. So, what does it look like to love our neighbor in regards to racial injustice? Here are some practical ways to help fight racial injustice that I have found helpful or have been recommended to me by trusted sources:

Educate yourself through reading, listening, and watching:

Read:

- Luke 10
- Luke 15
- Matthew 5
- White Fragility by Robin DiAngelo
- Why are all the kids sitting together in the cafeteria? By Beverly Daniel Tatum; PhD
- The New Jim Crow by Michelle Alexander

Listen/follow:

- Mike Todd
- Bernice A. King
- Black Lives Matter
- Propaganda (Spoken Word)

Watch:

- 13th Documentary - Netflix

- Just Mercy - Amazon Prime
- Dear White People - Netflix

Action:

- Contact our governmental officials
- Have hard, loving conversations about race with your family and friends
- Give to organizations that are working to end injustice
- Look for opportunities to support black owned businesses in our area

While many of these things on this list I have done myself, there are many that I have not, I am on this journey with you. Let's continue this conversation and take real tangible action and not leave it at posting a couple social media posts. Together, we can be a part of the change my friends! Please let me know if you have any questions or comments and look for more resources to be posted soon!

Love First,

Pastor Caleb