Boldly Proclaiming the Gospel of the Kingdom Ethnic Reconciliation for the Purpose of Missions https://www.completion.global/tools-for-ministry



#### Pastor Rickie Bradshaw, First Southwest Baptist Houston Rev. Don Allsman, CEO, Completion Global





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### Pastor Rickie Bradshaw

- 35 years First Southwest Baptist Houston
- 25 years Church Consultant UBA Houston
- Led ST mission trips to many continents
- KSBJ Radio Director of Prayer Initiatives
- National specialist in this topic
- Premiere expertise from experience



# Objectives

After generations of ethnic division, we want more than ethnic healing: our ambition is for the Body of Christ to reconcile for the purpose of world missions.

- 1. The priority of Jesus is world missions
- 2. Ethnic division an opportunity for world missions
- 3. A four-step roadmap toward reconciliation
- 4. How you can be involved
- 5. Q&A



#### The Priority of Jesus is World Missions

Jesus desires that every tribe, language, and nation is represented in his family

"And this gospel of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the whole world as a testimony to all nations [ethnesin], and then the end will come." - Mt. 24:14



#### The Priority of Jesus is World Missions

Jesus desires that every tribe, language, and nation is represented in his family

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations [ethne], baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you." - Mt. 28:19-20



#### The Priority of Jesus is World Missions

Jesus desires that every tribe, language, and nation is represented in his family

"After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation [ethnous], from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb – Rev. 7:9



## The Opportunity for World Missions

- Hundreds of years of division has left a stain with no political or social solution
- What seems hopeless to the world is an opportunity for us
- Jesus' Kingdom offers a way through



## The Opportunity for World Missions

- God's people can lead the way
- Advancement of Jesus' priority to the nations
- Restoration of broken relationships



#### The Opportunity for World Missions

# SENT

#### A Kingdom-minded roadmap to ethnic reconciliation in America



# The Father sent Jesus

John 17:20-23: I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, 21 that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. 22 The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, 23 I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me.

## Jesus sent us

John 20:21: Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you."

# **SENT:** Start Foundationally

Commitment to Christ and His Kingdom as the way to reconciliation (with the Church taking the lead)

Start Foundationally (Christ and Kingdom, Rev. 7:9, 1 Jn. 3:8)

# **SENT:** Start Foundationally

Eph. 2:19-20: So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, 20 built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, 21 in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. 22 In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

Start Foundationally (Christ and Kingdom, Rev. 7:9, 1 Jn. 3:8)

# SENT: Equip Historically

Develop charitable dialogue skills; grow in historical understanding; listen from another point of view (books, videos, seminars)

#### Equip Historically (Shared Understanding, Eph. 4:29-32, Js. 3:13-18)

# SENT: Equip Historically

*Eph.* 4:11-13: *And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers,* 12 to *equip the saints* for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, 13 until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

#### Equip Historically (Shared Understanding, Eph. 4:29-32, Js. 3:13-18)

# SENT: Equip Historically

#### Helpless: fear or shame

#### Suppress, blame, demand

# Micro-analyze: disqualify, deny, dismiss, deflect

#### Helpless: fear or bitterness

Adapted from Beyond Racial Gridlock, George Yancey



Adapted from *Beyond Racial Gridlock*, George Yancey

# SENT: Navigate Incarnationally

Seek a friendship with a person having a different life experience to listen, learn, lament together

Navigate Incarnationally (Trusted Friendship, Jn. 15:12-15, Prov. 17:17)

**Equip Historically** 

# SENT: Navigate Incarnationally

*Jn* 1:14: *And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us* 

Navigate Incarnationally (Trusted Friendship, Jn. 15:12-15, Prov. 17:17)

Equip Historically

# SENT: Navigate Incarnationally

1. Share a meal at the other person's favorite location

- 2. Schedule regular prayer together
- 3. Invite other friends into the relationship

Navigate Incarnationally

(Trusted Friendship)

**Equip Historically** 

# Reconciliation Fellowship Origins

- Colleagues since 2017
- George Floyd
- Church lead the way (ministers of reconciliation, 2 Cor. 5:18)
- 2020 quarterly Zoom gathering

### Reconciliation Fellowship Ephesians 2:1-22

V. 14-16: "For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility."

## Reconciliation Fellowship Values

- Christ-centered, Bible-based, Kingdom-oriented reconciliation
- One human race, many ethnicities
- Personal relationship with someone unlike me
- Safe dialogue where every voice is heard
- Listen, learn, lament

As co-laborers with God, discern together how to join in His Kingdom work where unity is a by- product rather than the goal

> Team Collaboratively (Common Task, 2 Cor. 5:18-20, Jn. 13:35)

> > Navigate Incarnationally

**Equip Historically** 

*Ph.* 1:27: *standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel* 

#### Team Collaboratively (Common Task, 2 Cor. 5:18-20, Jn. 13:35)

Navigate Incarnationally

**Equip Historically** 

#### **Team Collaboratively**

Formulate joint ventures on equal footing (avoid patronage):

- Go on mission trip together
- Have periodic joint worship services
- Plan joint retreats with two congregations
- Host outreach events together

#### **Team Collaboratively**

- Mixed ethnicity team volunteer in public school
- Start a prison ministry together
- Start a Reconciliation Fellowship-type group
- Work together to reach third culture (diaspora)

The pinnacle of Biblical reconciliation is when we are SENT to reach a third culture together

#### Team Collaboratively



Top nations with unreached people groups



\*UPG: so few indigenous followers of Jesus that need help outside culture to spread message to their people



#### Team Collaboratively



- Professionals
- Immigrants
- Refugees
- Diplomats
- Students

#### Team Collaboratively

Navigate Incarnationally

**Equip Historically** 

Coaching or weekend retreat to develop strategy:

- Spiritual and relational vitality
- Understand Biblical foundation
- How to equip yourself or your congregation
- How to enter and maintain friendships across ethnic lines
- How to work collaboratively to seek God and join Him in His work rather than manmade or political solutions



# Summary



We want more than ethnic reconciliation; Biblical reconciliation resulting from being SENT together for world missions

- 1. The nations are Jesus' priority
- 2. Ethnic division an opportunity for world missions
- 3. Start foundationally, equip historically, navigate incarnationally, team collaboratively
- 4. You can be involved: form collaborative efforts, start a Reconciliation Fellowship, get coaching

#### Questions and Comments

#### SENT

**Team Collaboratively** 

Navigate Incarnationally

**Equip Historically** 

## Resources Available

#### Start Foundationally (books except where noted)

- "Experiencing God" (Blackaby)
- "Jesus Cropped from the Picture" (Allsman)
- Article: Diversity and Inclusion Terminology (Bradshaw), <u>https://www.completion.global/tools-for-ministry</u>
- "Fight the Good Fight of Faith" (Davis and Allsman)
- "Epic" (Eldredge)
- "The Gospel of the Kingdom" (Webber)
- "Beyond the Obvious" (DeYoung and Hurty)
- "Ancient Future Faith" (Webber)

## Resources Available

#### Equip Historically

- Article: "Why Black History" (Allsman and Bradshaw), <u>https://www.completion.global/tools-for-ministry</u>
- "Beyond Racial Gridlock" (Yancey)
- "Reading While Black" (McCauley)
- Video series: "Eyes on the Prize" (PBS)
- Video series: "Reconstruction" (PBS)
- Video: "Why do White Christians Vote Republican, and Black Christians Vote Democrat?" (Vischer, YouTube)
- "One Blood" (Perkins)
- Videos: P&G "The Talk" and "The Look"

## Resources Available

#### Navigate Incarnationally

- Articles and videos: Reconciliation Fellowship (Allsman and Bradshaw), <u>https://www.completion.global/get-</u> <u>involved</u>
- Start a group:
  - David Martin (Portland) <u>dave@mosaixpdx.org</u>
  - Ray Hutchison (Philadelphia) <u>ray.hutchison@sim.org</u>
  - Johnyne Rees (Hempstead, TX) johnynerees@cs.com

#### Team Collaboratively

• Contact Rickie Bradshaw for coaching or weekend retreat

#### A Kingdom-minded roadmap to ethnic reconciliation in America





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