**Initial Concrete Steps (for the White Church) to Fight Racism and the Effects of Racism**

**(needs to be fought locally as well as nationally)**

    I.          Seek God:

a.      Pray

b.      Examine yourself

c.      What does the Bible have to say

            i.                     Rev 7:9- people of all nations and color serving God

       ii.             Good Samaritan

   II.          Education:

a.      Read

 i. The Color of Compromise *(*[*small group curriculum*](https://masterlectures.zondervanacademic.com/the-color-of-compromise-jemar-tisby)*)*

 ii. Rethinking Incarceration: Advocating for Justice that Restores      *(*[*free video-based small group curriculum for this book*](https://walkingtowardslove.com/series/rethinking-incarceration/)*)*

 iii. Southern Horrors: Lynch Law in All Its Phases

 iv. The Cross and the Lynching Tree *(*[*pastoral reflection guide written by ECC leaders*](https://covchurch.org/justice/wp-content/uploads/sites/29/2019/08/Cross-and-the-Lynching-Tree-Book-Study-.pdf)*)*

v. I Bring the Voices of My People

vi. The Christian Imagination: Theology and the Origins of Race

vii. Stamped from the Beginning

viii.               Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption

 ix. Between the World and Me

x. Medical Apartheid: The Dark History of Medical Experimentation on Black Americans from Colonial Times to the Present

xi .          <https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/george-floyd-and-me/>

b.      Two historic pieces to remember in this time

                                                    i. [Dr. King on the cause of the 1967 Detroit Riots](https://amp.theatlantic.com/amp/article/552536/)

                                                   ii. [Black Wall Street](https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smithsonian-institution/long-lost-manuscript-contains-searing-eyewitness-account-tulsa-race-massacre-1921-180959251/)

c.      Have meetings of lament

                                                    i. [Psalm 3](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Psalm+3&amp;version=NIV)

                                                   ii. [Psalm 5](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Psalm+5&amp;version=NIV)

                                                  iii. [Psalm 10](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Psalm+10&amp;version=NIV)

                                                  iv. [Psalm 11](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Psalm+11&amp;version=NIV)

                                                   v. [Psalm 13](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Psalm+13&amp;version=NIV)

                                                  vi. [Psalm 22:1-8](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Psalm+22%3A+1-8&amp;version=NIV)

                                                vii. [Psalm 28](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Psalm+28&amp;version=NIV)

                                               viii.    [Psalm 35:1-10](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Psalm+35%3A+1-10&amp;version=NIV)

                                                  ix. [Psalm 42](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Psalm+42&amp;version=NIV)

                                                   x. [Psalm 43](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Psalm+43&amp;version=NIV)

                                                  xi. [Psalm 55:1-11](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Psalm+55%3A+1-11&amp;version=NIV)

                                                xii. [Psalm 56](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Psalm+56&amp;version=NIV)

                                               xiii.    [Psalm 58](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Psalm+58&amp;version=NIV)

                                               xiv. [Psalm 59:1-7](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Psalm+59%3A+1-7&amp;version=NIV)

                                                xv. [Psalm 77](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Psalm+77&amp;version=NIV)

                                               xvi. [Psalm 139:23-24](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Psalm+139%3A23-24&amp;version=NIV)

                                              xvii.    [Psalm 140](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Psalm+140&amp;version=NIV)

                                            xviii.    [Psalm 142](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Psalm+142&amp;version=NIV)

                                               xix. [Ephesians 4:1-6](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Ephesians+4%3A1-6&amp;version=NIV)

                                                 xx. [Romans 12:1-2](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Romans+12%3A1-2&amp;version=NIV)

d.      Have small groups

 i. The Color of Compromise *(*[*small group curriculum*](https://masterlectures.zondervanacademic.com/the-color-of-compromise-jemar-tisby)*)*

ii. Rethinking Incarceration: Advocating for Justice that Restores *(*[*free video-based small group curriculum for this book*](https://walkingtowardslove.com/series/rethinking-incarceration/)*)*

i

e.      Have watch parties

 i. Just Mercy *(*[*film discussion guide*](https://dominiquegilliard.com/2020/01/20/just-mercy-discussion-guide/)*)*

 ii. When They See Us (Netflix)

 iii. [True Justice](https://eji.org/projects/true-justice/)

iv. [Slavery by Another Name](https://youtu.be/KSOwAJAn6as)

 v. I Am Not Your Negro

vi. [3 1/2 Minutes, 10 Bullets](https://vimeo.com/136815579)

 vii. [Interview with James Cone](https://vimeo.com/33219607)

viii.         [Sermon from Otis Moss III](https://youtu.be/l6985UG0Z3k)  Requiem for Ahmaud Arbery

 ix. [Lecture by Willie Jennings](https://youtu.be/H83b4TLLjUI?t=772)

x. [Devotional from Efrem Smith](http://covchurch.tv/efrem-smith-devotional/)

f.       Have seminars- I2RR, Sankofa

g.      Meet with/partner with a cross racial families/church- read together, watch together, work together, I2RR, Sankofa

III.          Discover what is going in in your context- ask questions, look around, pay attention, listen:

a.      If there are no people of color in your community- why are there no people of color in your community?

b.      What is the history of your community?

c.      What is the present mindset of the community (what biases are in the community)?

d.      Does the community project racist ideals (consciously and unconsciously)?

e.      Get to know the true needs of the community

f.       Where in the community is there institutional racism? In the school system, in the local government, at your work….

g.      Is there segregation? How, where, and what kind? What is the outcome- for example: food dessert, barriers to health care, poor housing options, poor job choices, inadequate education for children and adults

IV.          Help to meet physical needs:

a.      economic need (unaffordability of necessities)-

i. nutritional foods- food pantries, community gardens, co-ops

ii. safe housing- Bezalel Project, Habitat for Humanity, tear down and clean up unsafe housing

iii. health care- start or partner with low cost/free clinics; FQHCs

 iv. education- Start tutoring/mentoring programs, volunteer in local schools, donate to local schools, start and support charter schools

 v. Improve local transit for better access

b.      Lack due to segregation- (change legislation, get tax breaks)

i. food dessert- work to get grocery stores into neighborhoods of color, start co-ops

  ii. health care- start clinics, work to get doctor and dentist offices into neighborhoods of color

 iii. safe housing- change zoning, get rid of unsafe housing, Bezalel Project, Habitat for Humanity

 iv. education- start charter schools

v. Improve local transit for better access

 V.          Develop relationships and partnerships:

a.      Cross racially

b.      Other groups that are working to fight racism

VI.          Give:

a.      Donate

b.      Give time

c.      Be sacrificial

  VII.          Political steps:

a.      Voting- get to know the issues, get to know the candidates; help other people get to know the issues and the candidates; vote; help other people to vote

b.      Run for office

c.      Be an activist

d.    Support efforts to change policing policies in sync with the recommendations from President Barack Obama’s 21st Century Policing program which has clear guidelines for improving police departments and police officers.

 VIII.          Speak up:

a.      Don’t be complicit through silence

b.      Say what is helpful to move the conversation

IX.         At work:

1. How can you use your profession to fight against racism?
2. How can you use your position at your place of business to fight racism?

Resource lists from LMDJ “[Engage and Respond](https://covchurch.org/justice/engage-and-respond/?fbclid=IwAR2msq9zt3eLmJp_egOJlV7JihJBbAdb1b3R8lWEdKF2M-mk4URyeuKFlTA)”

This document is evolving. If you know of resources or steps that you feel should be on this list, please email the GLC office at jody@greatlakes.cc