

Resources for Families: Talking about Race

Gracious God, you created us in your image. Give us the grace to turn our anger and outrage into justice and compassion. Transform our pain so that we may spread love. Strengthen our bodies, minds, and hearts for the long, hard, holy work of reconciliation and justice. Enable us, through the power of the Holy Spirit, to bring about the Reign of God; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen

[A Service for Families: Righteousness and Justice](#) (taken from Common Prayer for Children and Families)

Why should we be talking about race?

- As Christians we are called to create Beloved Community
- Jesus' command to us was to Love God and to love your neighbor as yourself
- In our Baptismal Covenant we commit ourselves to strive for justice and peace among all people and to respect the dignity of every human being
- Awareness and understanding are the first steps in change

Some steps families can take to talk about race:

- Start early, no time is to late
- Be open and curious
- Explain as simply as possible - [guide to talking by age group](#)
- Don't think you need to have all the answers
- Allow children to express their feelings
- Seek out diversity
- Encourage action
- Ask questions
- Be a role model

Many parents aren't sure how to start the conversation. If you fall into this category, you are not alone. Check out this article: [100 Race-Conscious Things You Can Say To Your Child To Advance Racial Justice](#).

Additional Resources:

[NPR Article: How White Parents Can Talk To Their Kids About Race](#)

[Diverse Children's Books](#)

[Books Collection for All Types of Diversity](#)

[Social Justice Books for Teens](#)

[Building Faith: Talking with Children about Hard Topics](#)

[Resources from Illustrated Ministry](#)

[Talking About Race: The National Museum of African American History and Culture](#)

For additional information, [please contact Amy Campbell](#), Children and Family Missioner