

8 Reasons You Can't Walk With Jesus and Embrace Racism

1. All people of all colors in all parts of the world are made in God's image and he values them.

Genesis 9:6 (NASB)

Whoever sheds man's blood, by man his blood shall be shed,
For in the image of God He made man.

2. All races and nationalities come from the same blood lineage and are equal in God's sight.

Acts 17:26-28 NKJV

And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings, so that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us;

3. Tolerating Racism is still Racism. (Paul chews out Peter at the table)

Galatians 2:11-13 (NLT)

But when Peter came to Antioch, I had to oppose him to his face, for what he did was very wrong. When he first arrived, he ate with the Gentile believers, who were not circumcised. But afterward, when some friends of James came, Peter wouldn't eat with the Gentiles anymore. He was afraid of criticism from these people who insisted on the necessity of circumcision. As a result, other Jewish believers followed Peter's hypocrisy, and even Barnabas was led astray by their hypocrisy.

4. Jesus followers should speak out for those who are oppressed.

Proverbs 31:8 (NLT)

Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves; ensure justice for those being crushed.

5. The gospel message has never ignored racial issues. (Matthew 22:37)

The greatest commandments compel us to love God and our neighbors, and the Great Commission compels us to share the gospel and build lasting relationships with other ethnicities. So this is bigger than a race issue. It's an obstacle to our mission of reaching people and helping them grow to follow Jesus. John Piper said, "Missions exists because worship doesn't." We can also say racism exists where spiritual maturity doesn't.

6. Our vertical relationship with God should directly impact our horizontal relationship with one another.

1 John 4:20 (NASB)

If someone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for the one who does not love his brother whom he has seen, cannot love God whom he has not seen.

7. Racism is a gospel issue and a spiritual maturity issue.

The beauty of the gospel is not sameness, but oneness. God has called us to unity, not uniformity, and mutual discipleship produces this type of oneness.

8. Every nation, tribe, people and language exists in heaven.

Revelation 7:9-10 (NLT)

After this I saw a vast crowd, too great to count, from every nation and tribe and people and language, standing in front of the throne and before the Lamb. They were clothed in white robes and held palm branches in their hands. And they were shouting with a great roar, "Salvation comes from our God who sits on the throne and from the Lamb!"