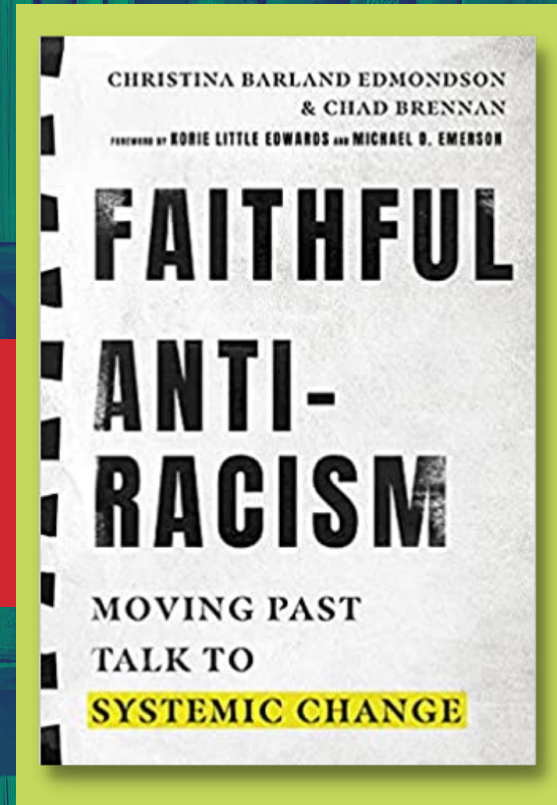


ALL TOGETHER

2022 Reconciliation
Book Study #2



Led by
Dr. Joshua Scott
Associate Pastor

Faithful Antiracism

Moving Past Talk to Systemic Change

By Dr. Christian Edmondson and Chad Brennan

Sign up:
alltogether@spdl.org

May 9 & 23
June 13

7 p.m.
On Zoom



ALL TOGETHER



Rules for our time together

- **Be Kind**
- **Be Prayerful**
- **Be Open**
- **Offer the truth always in love.**

Partially Standing for Racial Justice

Secret stand- provides internal support.

Theoretical stand- provides verbal support but no action.

Selective stand-provides verbal and actual support in instances where significant sacrifices aren't needed.

Limited stand-provides verbal and actual support to certain causes or groups.



Chapter 5

Faithful Antiracist
Understand Our Present



Fannie Lou Hamer



Mark 7:20-23

²⁰ He went on: “What comes out of a person is what defiles them. ²¹ For it is from within, out of a person’s heart, that evil thoughts come—sexual immorality, theft, murder, ²² adultery, greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and folly. ²³ All these evils come from inside and defile a person.”

Page 89

“Christians lose their ability to be salt and light in the world when they allow their political party or politicians to determine which social issues are important and a high priority.”



Faith

Politics

Common Barriers to Racial Justice Efforts Today. Page 100

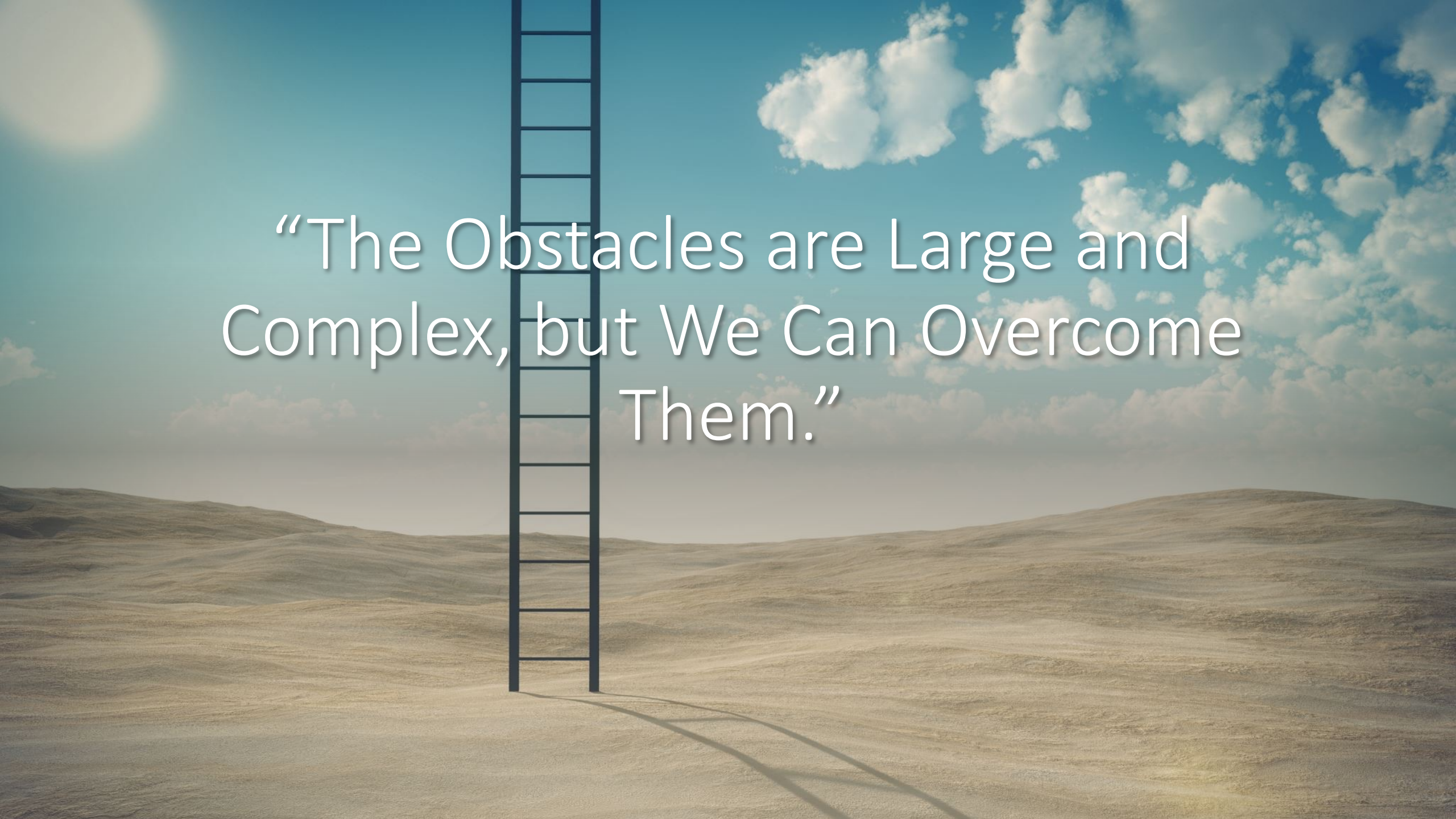
Fear-driven rhetoric

Violence

Psychological manipulation

Economics

Politics


A tall wooden ladder stands vertically in the center of a vast, hazy, rolling landscape. The ground is a mix of light and dark brown, suggesting a dry or sandy terrain. The horizon is low, and the sky is a deep blue with scattered white clouds. The ladder's shadow is cast on the ground to the right. The overall mood is one of challenge and perseverance.

“The Obstacles are Large and Complex, but We Can Overcome Them.”

Why is it easier to see injustice
in previous generations than in
our own generation?


Chapter 6

Faithful Antiracist Understand Racial Trauma



Psychological
Trauma.
Page 108

- “The result of an event or multiple events or circumstances that are experienced as physically or emotionally threatening or deleterious which has lasting effects on an individual’s functioning or well-being.”



Cultural
Trauma.
Page 108

- “A collective or communal response to a shared life-threatening and identity-altering event that metaphorically leaves the group timestamped and directionally rerouted. The event has become a part of the group’s cultural story. In other words, the group’s sense of collective consciousness is bookmarked with a before and after trauma page holder.”



Racial
Trauma.
Page 108

- “The cumulative effects of personal and systemic racism. Remember, racism is race-based discrimination and stratification produced by racial prejudice and social power. Racial trauma impacts mental, physical, and spiritual well-being and health.”

Pain, Frozen In Time

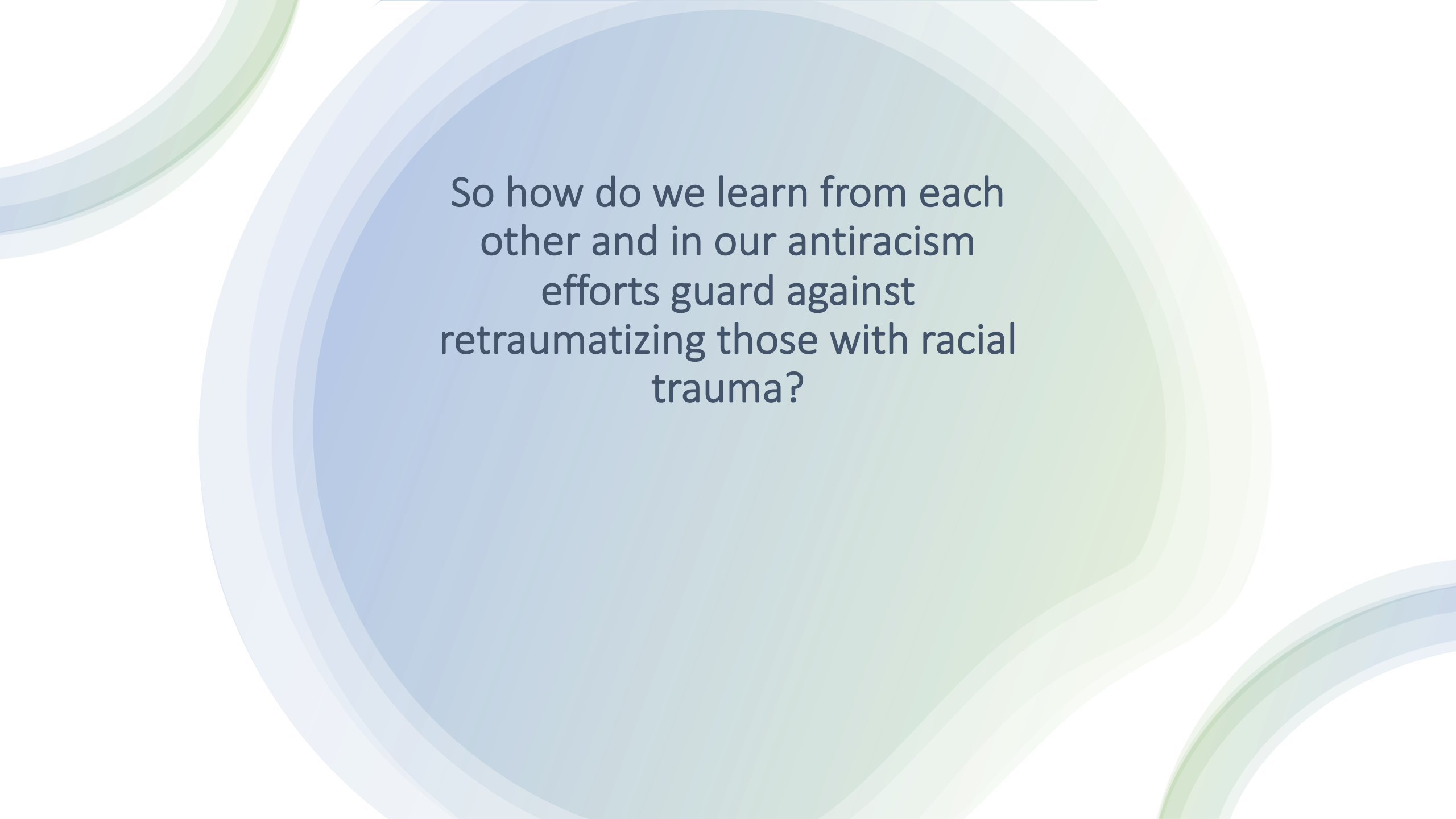


Prayer
Questions
For God.
Page 114

God, must racial trauma be fully headed for relief to come?

How can one be healed where denial is rampant?

The truth sets us free, and conversely lies keep us in bondage. Have mercy, Lord.



So how do we learn from each other and in our antiracism efforts guard against retraumatizing those with racial trauma?



Page 117

- We must let a written biography tell the story, let data tell the story, let Scripture tell the story. We do not have the moral right to demand engagement from those who have been wounded by our complicity, apathy, or flagrant abuses. We do, however, have the duty to do what is right by centering suppressed voices in ourselves and asking introspective questions. Why have these voices been ignored? What does it cost when they speak?

Reducing Racial Trauma

1

Have a shared mission that produces a trauma-informed strategy.

2

Acknowledge the harm, and develop an antiracist restorative justice focus.

3

Resist pitting groups against each other.

4

Decenter the myth of the personal friendship approach. "Friendship without equity is a farce!"

5

Create measurable goals and external systems of accountability.

Chapter 7

Faithful Antiracist Do Not Rely On Magic

Moral Licensing. Page 125

“Moral licensing explains how when people initially behave in a moral way, they are more likely to display behaviors that are immoral, unethical, or problematic in other ways later... In other words, when we are confident we have behaved well in the past, and our actions demonstrate compassion and generosity, we are more likely to explain away acts that are selfish, bigoted, or thoughtless.”

Galatians

3:28

²⁸ There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

This text acknowledges our differences but suggests that we are all welcome into the family of Christ with our differences.

Racial diversity is often pursued for the benefit of the organization rather than to promote racial justice. Page 139

- Increasing the membership of the organization
- Remaining financially sustainable
- Demonstrating that the organization/leaders are not racially prejudiced or behind-the-times
- Appeasing members and employees that are encouraging the organization to focus on racial diversity
- Avoiding a negative public incident and/or a racial bias lawsuit
- Reducing racial conflict and tension within the organization.

Page 143

Let's
Pray!

Chapter 8

Faithful Antiracist Follow The Example of The Early
Christians

Genesis 18:19

¹⁹ For I have chosen him, so that he will direct his children and his household after him to keep the way of the LORD by **doing what is right** and just, so that the LORD will bring about for Abraham what he has promised him.”

Mark 12:31

³¹ The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these."

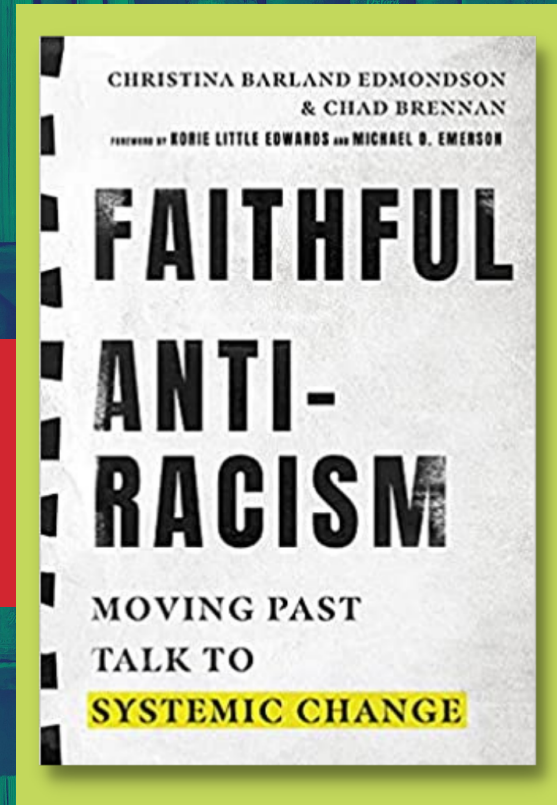
Learning from the book of Acts and Galatians

- In Acts 1, the early church prayed together and relied on God's power.
- In Acts 6, the oppressed spoke up and the oppressors listened.
- In Acts 6, they empowered leaders to address injustice within their community.
- In Acts 6, they prioritized social justice.
- In Acts 11-13, they shared leadership.
- In Acts 11, they shared financial resources.
- In Acts 15, they practiced accommodation, not assimilation
- In Galatians 2, they had courageous conversations.

In regard to courageous conversations, is it more difficult for you to speak up like Paul or to listen like Peter? Why?

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Let's Pray
Pages 163-164

