## WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT RACISM

"Then Jesus came to them and said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." Matt. 28:18-20 (NIV)

Prejudice: noun. 1. A. An adverse judgment or opinion formed beforehand or without knowledge or examination of the facts. B. A preconceived preference or idea; bias. The American Heritage Dictionary

As believers in	n	Christ,	we	each	ате	
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- to Society (Zech 1:3) A PROPHET
- to Sinners (2 Cor. 5:20)
- A PRIEST to Sinners (2 Cor. 5
   A PARTNER to Saints (Gal. 6:1)
- A PERSON in need of God.

"For I want you always to see clearly the difference between right and wrong, and to be inwardly clean, no one being able to criticize you from now until our Lord returns." Phil. 1:10 (TLB)

"Some men came down from Judea to Antioch and were teaching the brothers 'Unless you are circumcised, according to the custom taught by Moses, you cannot be saved." Acts 15:1 (NIV)

## The attitude behind all prejudice

Why aren't	400	exactly like ME:
Why aren't	400	exactly like ME.

### I. GET /NFORMED

"The church sent them on their way, and as they traveled through Phoenicia and Samaria, they told how the Gentiles had been converted. This news made all the brothers very glad." Acts 15:3 (NIV)

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II. GET Togl=7741=P
"When they came to Jerusalem, they were welcomed by the church and the apostles and elders, to whom they reported everything God had done through them." Acts 15:4 (NIV
III. GET A LEADER
"After much discussion, Peter got up and addressed them 'He made no distinction between us and them, for He purified their hearts by faith.'" Acts 15:7, 9 (NIV)
Before Peter could lead <u>OTHERS</u> out of prejudice, he had to deal with <u>FIS OWN</u> prejudice.
"Then Peter began to speak: 'I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism but accepts men from every nation who fear Him and do what is right.'" Acts 10:34-35 (NIV)
Where do we need leadership:
<ul> <li>In our country.</li> <li>In our <u>Business</u></li> <li>In our <u>Families</u></li> <li>In our <u>CHURCH</u></li> </ul>
IV. GET A DECISION
"It is my judgment, therefore, that we should not make it difficult for the Gentiles who as turning to God." Acts 15:19 (NIV)
Two ways to break through prejudice:
The WAY of MANKIND: The result is PRIDE.
The $WAY$ of $MANKIND$ : The result is $PRIDE$ .  The $WAY$ of $CHRIST$ : The result is $PEACE$ .
Look at Ephesians 2

"It was also Christ's purpose to end the hatred between the two groups, to make them into

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one body, and to bring them back to God.	Christ did all this with His death on the cross."
Eph. 2:16 (NCV)	

# V. DON'T GET <u>Foo/e-D</u>

"Instead we should write to them, telling them to abstain from food polluted by idols, from sexual immorality, from the meat of strangled animals and from blood." Acts 15:20 (NIV)

It is not racist to say:

- EUERYDNE needs Jesus
- What you're doing is WRONG
- What your <u>culture</u> had taught you is wrong.

# VI. GIVE ENCOURAGEMENT

"Then the apostles and elders, with the whole church, decided to choose some of their own men and send them to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas. They chose Judas (called Barsabas) and Silas, two men who were leaders among the brothers. With them they sent the following letter..." Acts 15:22-23 (NIV)

"For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16 (NIV)