



*My
Story*

Minn Rose

husband Stephen
daughter Naomi (6)
daughter Nora (2)

I've been at Hope for
14 years, since I was
a freshman at the U!

I work at a large
medical device
company in the
Twin Cities.

**HEY!
I HAVE A
QUESTION!**

Summer Sermon Series

This week's question:

What steps is Hope taking in response to Gospel & Race conversations of the past?



For Further Study

thanks to Erica Messerli

REDEMPTION
OF THE CITY

A GOSPEL IN
COMMUNITY
SEMINAR

RSVP ON
THE CITY

The

Gospel & Race

FEB. 23, 2011
7-9PM



A biblical summary regarding the Gospel and Race

1. *ALL people are created equal by God. Therefore, racism exists because biblical anthropology doesn't.*
2. *Looking down on anyone because of their race is always sinful. Therefore, sin demands turning to Jesus for forgiveness and grace.*
3. *Because the Church has Christ, through his Spirit, we (re)embrace a biblical anthropology and identify those things (e.g. money, sex, power, control, advantage, policy, etc.) used to perpetuate inequalities in our world.*

“
There is no improving the future, without disturbing the present,
and the difficulty is to get people to be willing to be disturbed.”

Catherine Booth,
Co-Founder Salvation Army





Amos 5:21-27

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God hates religious gatherings!?

Amos 5:21-23

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“Let justice roll...”

Amos 5:24

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Justice has been denied

5:7 There are those who turn justice into bitterness and cast righteousness to the ground.

5:10 There are those who hate the one who upholds justice in court and detest the one who tells the truth.

5:11 You levy a straw tax on the poor and impose a tax on their grain.

5:12 There are those who oppress the innocent and take bribes and deprive the poor of justice in the courts.

Why did this injustice begin?

Amos 4:6, 8, 9, 10, 11

“Yet you did not return to me,” declares the Lord.

Amos 5:24

24 But let justice [*mishpat* / mish **pawt**/]
or actions taken to correct injustice]
roll on like a river,

(let) righteousness [*tsâdaqah* / tsed ·aw ·**kaw**/] or to bring
relationships into right standing; equity despite differences]
(roll) like a never-failing stream!

Conduct out of step with the gospel

Galatians 2:11-14

11 When Peter came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he stood condemned. 12 For before certain men came from James, he used to eat with the Gentiles. But when they arrived, he began to draw back and separate himself from the Gentiles because he was afraid of those who belonged to the circumcision group. 13 The other Jews joined him in his hypocrisy, so that by their hypocrisy even Barnabas was led astray. 14 When I saw that they were not acting in line with the truth of the gospel, I said to Peter in front of them all, "You are a Jew, yet you live like a Gentile and not like a Jew. How is it, then, that you force Gentiles to follow Jewish customs?"

Wilderness wandering → Exile

Amos 5:25-27

21 “I hate, I despise your religious festivals; your assemblies are a stench to me. 22 Even though you bring me burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them. Though you bring choice fellowship offerings, I will have no regard for them. 23 Away with the noise of your songs! I will not listen to the music of your harps. 24 But let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream! 25 “Did you bring me sacrifices and offerings forty years in the wilderness, people of Israel? 26 You have lifted up the shrine of your king, the pedestal of your idols, the star of your god — which you made for yourselves. 27 Therefore I will send you into exile beyond Damascus,” says the Lord, whose name is God Almighty.

My best attempt to name reality

Imagine an intersection...

Bryan
Freeman

Profit
Idowu

Benji
Mathews

Nathan
Vanderlaan

Ben
Johnson

Ben
Goessling

Ben Johnson

wife Brooke

daughter Courtney (14)

son Phil (12)

son Ian (9)

I've been at Hope
for 22 years and serve as
an elder.

I work at Hope Academy,
a partner ministry of
HCC.



*My
Story*

Hear the pain &
frustration



My
Story

I'm nearly 34 and I can count on one hand the number of people who have served as a shield for me in defending racism.

Nathan Vanderlaan, Software Engineer at MPR/ APM



What qualifies a church as being multi-ethnic? What keeps the ethnicities of the world from coming into the church? Is it the location? Or is it more the heart of the church? One day I brought a group of friends to Hope. We sat in the second row. It's clear that we looked different. No one talked to us in the front of the service or downstairs in the community room. BUT I'm still trying to invite people.

Profit Idowu, Project Manager at The On Being Project



“Why aren't Hope's doors open a bit more?”



Hear their call to
seek understanding



My
Story

I tend to be someone who talks a lot. One of the things that's been helpful within this group is to shut up and actually listen and not looking to respond to get my own point of view out there, especially from a majority culture. Shut up and let other people talk. Be okay that you're not the center of attention.

Ben Goessling, Minnesota Vikings beat reporter at Star Tribune



I know my story and my family's history. How can my brothers and sisters have a genuine care about my story? Don't typecast me into the discovery channels you've seen. Ask the tougher question: what makes me unique. What about my story might you come to know? And then share your story with me.

Profit Idowu, Project Manager at The On Being Project



I'd like to see the church to see this as a theological and discipleship issue rather than a political or agenda issue. I think it's an imago dei. God has always had a heart for the nations. Jesus wants us to be sent out and be so radically different than the world. The discussion doesn't always get there. But it should start there. Since I started listening Pass the Mic (podcast – Dynamic voices for a diverse church), I think about things like I never thought about them before (e.g. 4th of July). Journey with people and make the effort, there is so much to learn and become aware of. Sin blinds us to so many things.

Bryan Freeman, Partner at Maslon LLP, elder at Hope Community



“Each of us must walk through the stages of learning.
Unconscious incompetence – conscious incompetence –
conscious competence – unconscious competence.
It’s cyclical, not stairs.”

Liz Bohannon
Founder of Sseko Designs. Sseko is an ethical fashion brand that provides
employment, educational opportunities and entrepreneurial training to
over 50 women in East Africa.



Hear the voices
beyond our own



*My
Story*

“If we want to do justice, we’ve got to commit ourselves to get close to the poor, the neglected, the incarcerated, the condemned, those who are suffering. Our faith comes to life in proximity to the poor.”

Bryan Stevenson, civil rights attorney, founder of the Equal Justice Initiative, and author of *Just Mercy*.



“Diversity is being invited to the party.
Inclusion is being asked to dance.”

Vernā Myers: VP of Inclusion Strategy at Netflix and Founder,
The Vernā Myers Company



I'm still in this conversation from the privileged perspective of opting in to it. Which of course means that on the flip side, I could just as easily opt out of it. Every day, I'm given that choice — I'm granted that privilege — based on the color of my skin.



Kyle Korver, Milwaukee Bucks

Gen Z, in particular, wants to see change. They aren't sheltered. Older Gen Zers saw Philando Castile bleed out in front of his girlfriend all over Facebook. There's a collective trauma building up in this population. Gen Z, on the whole, sees ethnicity as something to be celebrated. Gen Zers, like millennials, don't care much what's said in church on Sunday morning if they don't see it walk over that chasm into Monday through Saturday. They want to see the impact of faith and identity apart from a Sunday morning experience. If they don't see transformation in society, they're going to question the reality of what we say we believe. Millennials have brought to Gen Z the idea of an integrated reality. They want to see how their faith speaks life into the places where they work, where they play, where they worship, and every aspect of their humanity. Whether we're ready for it or not, Gen Z is going to force us to engage the issues that matter to them.

James "Jimmy" McGee III: President and CEO of The Impact Movement,
a campus ministry for black students around the country
Christianity Today article: [What Should Pastors Know About Generation Z](#)



“Help people see the “other” as treasure not trouble.

Krish Kandiah, entrepreneur with a vision to help solve some of society's seemingly intractable problems through building partnerships between civil society, faith communities, government and philanthropy.



“When (to use the words of Orwell’s *Animal Farm*) everyone is equal but some are more equal than others...The implications are huge.

Jo Saxton, Co host of Lead Stories Podcast.
Speaker & Author. Founder of the Ezer Collective.



Hear their call to
take action



My
Story

There should be some risk or discomfort involved. If we're doing this correctly, it'll come with challenge. There will be spiritual warfare. People will leave.



“By not going there (taking decisive action),
we risk perpetuating inequities.”

Benji Mathews, Chief of Hospital Medicine, Regions
Hospital; Associate Professor, University of Minnesota
Medical School; elder at Hope Community



“ Make it a more open and inviting space. It feels weird because we haven't been trained in sharing our story or inviting others to share their own stories...what stories aren't represented?

Send a text saying, "It'd be good to have you."

Profit Idowu, Project Manager at The On Being Project





What is our church doing?

You are the church.

What are you doing?



Hear their hope
& dreams for a
different future



My
Story

“My dream is anyone can walk through the doors of Hope and feel comfortable. That’s how the body should work. It doesn’t necessarily have to be a certain percent. But there should be a welcoming environment because we’re the body.”

Nathan Vanderlaan, Software Engineer at MPR/ APM



Revelation 7:9-10

9 After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. 10 And they cried out in a loud voice:

“Salvation belongs to our God,
who sits on the throne,
and to the Lamb.”

Message Notes

Gospel & Race

My Story - Minn Rose

Summer Sermon series:

Hey! I have a question!

Today's Question:

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Gospel and Race 2017

- ALL people are created equal by God. Therefore, racism exists because biblical anthropology doesn't.
- Looking down on anyone because of their race is always sinful. Therefore, sin demands turning to Jesus for forgiveness and grace.
- Because the Church has Christ, through his Spirit, we (re)embrace a biblical anthropology and identify those things (e.g. money, sex, power, control, advantage, policy, etc.) used to perpetuate inequalities in our world.

Amos 5:21-27

My best metaphor to name reality

My Story - Ben Johnson

Hear their stories

Gospel Application - *Oh, that we might hear God's call to our church to "Let justice roll down." That you/we might, as the church, take steps to engage this topic. That we might proclaim the gospel and act in line with the truth of the gospel.*

Scripture Passages

(taken from the New International Version)

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For Further Study

The Bible

Hope Community Church

Youtube: hopeccdotcom - 2017 Gospel and Race event

Videos

Youtube: Mic - We all have racial bias

Youtube: SciShow Psych - Is everyone a little bit racist?

Christian Thought Leaders on Race

Martin Luther King Jr.

- Letter from a Birmingham Jail

Bryan Stevenson

- TED talk: We need to talk about an injustice
- Book: Just Mercy

Jemar Tisby

- Podcast: Pass the Mic
- Book: The Color of Compromise
- Washington Post: How Ferguson widened an enormous rift between black Christians and white evangelicals

Ekemini Uwan

- sistamatictheology.com

Additional Voices

From Verna Myers

- Moving Diversity Forward: How to go from well-meaning to well-doing
- What if I say the wrong thing: 25 habits for culturally effective people

Ta-Nehisi Coates

- Book: We were eight years in power

Articles

Christianity Today: Preaching Against Racism Is Not a Distraction from the Gospel by Esau McCaulley

The Player's Tribune: Privileged by Kyle Korver

Difference Works: Organizational Culture as the 'Water' We Fish Swim In by Caroline Turner

Videos:

John F. Morgan Distinguished Faculty Lecture: White Rage - The Unspoken Truth of Our Nation's Divide by Carol Anderson

WCCO article: Minnesota's 5th Congressional District Listed as Worst District for Black Americans to Live

New York Times: The 1619 Project

Pew Research: Key Findings on Americans' views of Race in 2019

Within in Minneapolis/Minnesota

"Owning Up: Racism and Housing in Minneapolis" <https://twin-cities.umn.edu/news-events/owning-racism-and-housing-minneapolis>

Based off of the Mapping Prejudice Project-<https://www.mappingprejudice.org/>

<https://www.minnpost.com/metro/2019/02/with-covenants-racism-was-written-into-minneapolis-housing-the-scars-are-still-visible/>

MN Department of Health: American Indian Maternal/Child Health.

WCCO/CBS article: Philando Castile-3 years ago on July 6th, 2016

Health/Economic Disparity

'The Fierce Urgency of Now'- Understanding and Effectively Addressing Racial Inequities in the U.S. by David R. Williams

Youtube: HealthCare Triage - U.S. Maternal Mortality is Much Higher for African-Americans

Youtube: HealthCare Triage - Racial Disparities in Healthcare are Pervasive

Article: ProPublica - "Nothing protects Black Women from Dying in Pregnancy and Childbirth"

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Pew Research: Key Findings on Americans' views of Race in 2019

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