

Reading List and Resources for learning about Racism

Where I would start: I find that these books help orient us to the issues most clearly

[*Anxious to Talk about it: Helping White Christians Talk Faithfully about Racism* by Carolyn Helsel](#)

[*I'm Still Here: Black Dignity in a World Made for Whiteness* by Austin Channing Brown](#)

[*Between the World and Me* by Ta-Nehisi Coates](#)

[*Tears we Cannot Stop* by Michael Eric Dyson](#)

[*How to be an Anti-Racist* by Ibram X. Kendi](#)

For a window into the Black Experience in America (these are mostly memoirs or fiction):

Between the World and Me by Ta-Nehisi Coates

The Fire Next Time by James Baldwin

The Hate U Give by Angie Thomas

Americanah by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

Beloved by Toni Morrison

The Underground Railroad by Colson Whitehead

Homegoing by Yaa Gyasi

I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings by Maya Angelou

Go Tell it on the Mountain by James Baldwin

So You Want to Talk about Race by Ijeoma Oluo

Born a Crime by Trevor Noah (this is a memoir about how he was raised in South Africa but still a good picture of growing up black)

For a picture of the way race has affected the church and theological perspectives:

Dear White Christians by Jennifer Harvey

Tears we Cannot Stop: A Sermon to White America by Michael Eric Dyson

A Testament of Hope by Martin Luther King Jr.

The Cross and the Lynching Tree by James H. Cone

No Innocent Bystanders by Shannon Craigo-Snell

The Color of Compromise: The Truth about the American Church's Complicity in Racism by Jemar Tisby

Dear Church: A Love Letter from a Black Preacher to the Whitest Denomination in the US by Lenny Duncan

Disunity in Christ by Christena Cleveland

The Dangerous Act of Loving your Neighbor by Mark Labberton

For learning more about structural and systemic racism:

The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness by Michelle Alexander

Me and White Supremacy: Combat Racism, Change the Word and Become a Good Ancestor by Layla Saad

Just Mercy by Bryan Stevenson

America's Original Sin by Jim Wallis

For learning about how you can help:

Waking up White and Finding Myself in the Story of Race by Debby Irving

White Fragility: Why It's So Hard for White People to Talk about Racism by Robin DiAngelo

How to Be An Anti-Racist by Ibram X. Kendi

White Awake: An Honest Look at What It Means to Be White by Daniel Hill

Videos:

[Ted Talk Playlist about Race](#)

[The Next Question: a web-based video series about racial justice](#)

Movies and Documentaries

The Hate U Give (movie based on the novel by the same name, available on Amazon Prime)

Race- The Power of an Illusion (3 part PBS documentary on race in America)

42 (Movie about Jackie Robison the first African American to play in the MLB)

Selma (Movie about marches from Selma to Montgomery in 1965)

12 Years a Slave (Movie based on a true story about a free African American man who was kidnapped and sold into slavery)

Just Mercy (Movie based on the true story of the same name and is available on Amazon Prime)

Do The Right Thing

13th (A documentary on Netflix about the U.S. prison boom and the criminalization of African Americans)

Podcasts:

[White Lies](#)

In 1965, Rev. James Reeb was murdered in Selma, Alabama. ... Fifty years later, two journalists from Alabama return to the city where it happened, expose the lies that kept the murder from being solved and uncover a story about guilt and memory that says as much about America today as it does about the past.

[The 1619 Project](#)

An audio series on how slavery has transformed America, connecting past and present through the oldest form of storytelling.

[Seeing White](#)

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