

# COLOR BLESSED

## Week 3 - Color-Blessed Conversations

### SERMON RECAP:

Have you ever been in a situation with a family member, friend, or co-worker in which you start talking about a sensitive topic where you don't see eye to eye? Have you ever had to confront a loved one about a hurtful comment they made? Have you ever had a hard talk about race, ethnicity, or culture that made you feel awkward, uncomfortable, or just plain angry?

Having difficult conversations is a part of life. That's not a problem. The problem is when we come to these conversations with a spirit of defensiveness or malice. Through Jesus we can learn to have loving, Christ-centered, color-blessed conversations—even about the most difficult of topics.

The more secure we are in God's love, the less defensive we will be in difficult conversations. Through faith in Christ we can (1) love our brothers & sisters as Christ loves us, (2) become compassionate listeners, (3) become learners, (4) and leverage our lives courageously for the sake of Christ. You can remember these points easily by thinking of them as the 4 L's: Love, Listen, Learn, Leverage.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

#### Upward

- Read Ephesians 2:14-16. What do these verses communicate about God's desire for all people?
- To what extent did Christ go to unite all people? Why do you think He was willing to sacrifice Himself for this purpose?

#### Inward

- Read Ephesians 4:1-3. Do you find this command difficult or easy? What are ways you can extend patience and love to others?
- Read Romans 12:15-16. Do you enjoy learning about others? Why is it important to always strive to understand other people and learn about who they are?

- Have you given other people the opportunity to learn about yourself? How can you share your story with others in a way that invites loving conversation?

## Outward

- Read Ephesians 4:4-6. These verses help us to see how we are all connected to one another. What you do affects other people and vice versa. Have you ever thought about how your actions can change lives? How does this encourage you to lead with humility, love, and grace?
- Who is someone you need to have a hard conversation with? Ask your group to pray with you and over you. Remember that in Christ, you can have hard conversations with love.

**Soul Tattoo:** In Christ, you are built for color-blessed conversations.

**Action Step:** Practice the 4L's: Love, Listen, Learn, Leverage & read *How to Heal Our Racial Divide*.