

UNTIL ALL ARE FREE –
PART 2
WHO IS MY “NEIGHBOR”?

Luke 10:29-37

OBJECTIVES FOR MESSAGE

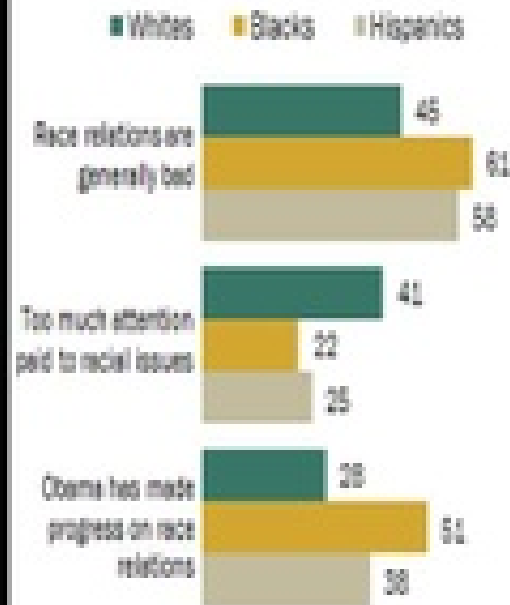
1. Provide some facts to help us understand the social chaos in our country today.
2. To consider whether the church has handed over its role as “doers of justice” to others.
3. Ask you to ponder what should happen next.

THE THREE MEN

- A. **Priest and Levite** (on way home from Temple?):
 1. They saw... and each walked on by. V 31-32.
 2. Don't care? Afraid? Intentional "not to see" or not get involved?
 3. **Is it possible that our human experience blinds us to our "neighbors"?**

Black and white Americans differ widely in views on race and race relations

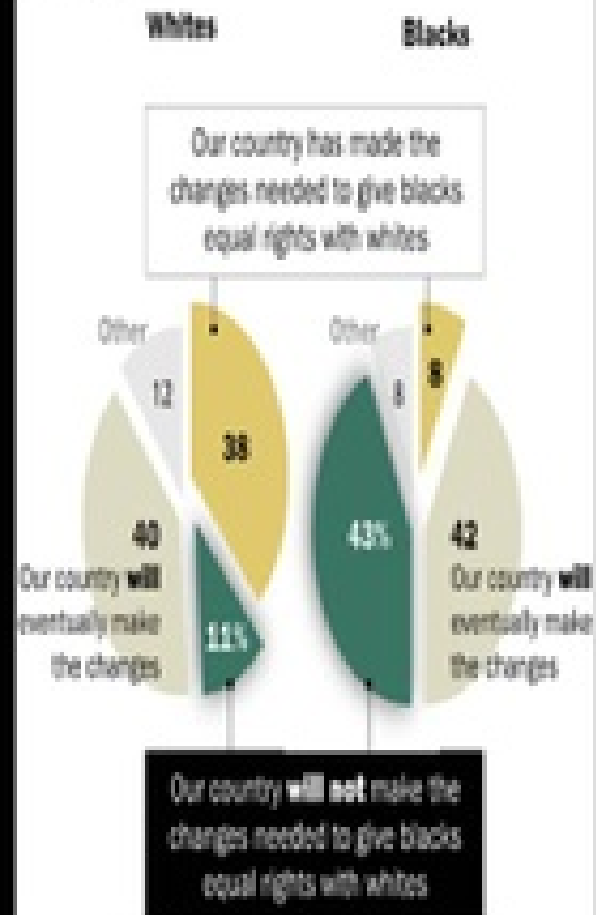
% saying —



Pew Research Center, 6/27/16

Many blacks are skeptical that the country will eventually make the changes necessary for racial equality

% saying —



FBI DIRECTOR COMEY, SPEECH
2/12/15 AT GEORGE
WASHINGTON UNIV

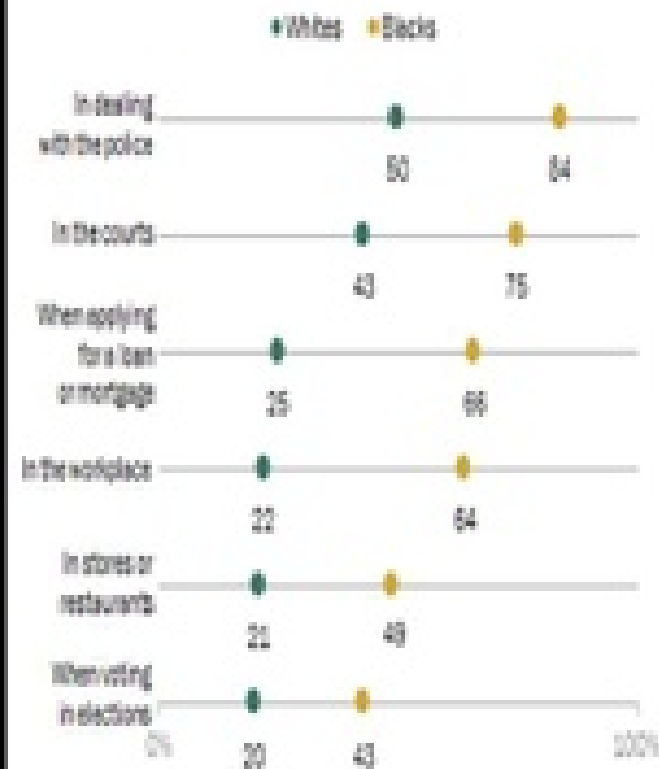
- “But that leads me to my third hard truth: something happens to people in law enforcement. ...Many of us develop different flavors of cynicism that we work hard to resist...

“AREN'T MORE WHITES KILLED BY POLICE THAN BLACKS?”

- Blacks are 2.5x more likely to be killed by police than whites. (per 1000)
- Unarmed black men are 5x more likely to be killed by police than unarmed white men.
 - https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/post-nation/wp/2016/07/11/arent-more-white-people-than-black-people-killed-by-police-yes-but-no/?utm_term=.cb3671ffd5b5

Perceptions of how blacks are treated in the U.S. vary widely by race

% saying blacks are treated less fairly than whites in the country



Note: Whites and blacks include only non-Hispanics.

Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Feb. 29-May 8, 2016. Q19P2a-c. "On Views of Race and Inequality, Blacks and Whites are Worlds Apart"

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Is it possible that our human experience blinds us to our "neighbors"?

Why are 37 schools in Baltimore County non-air conditioned and all Howard County schools are?

THE THREE MEN

B. The Samaritan.

1. He saw...and came to the man...
 - Exactly same picture but totally different view of the man:
 - From a distance.
 - Felt compassion for him.
 - Acted on his compassion. V 33.

1. THE QUESTION IS NOT "WHO IS MY NEIGHBOR?" BUT "WILL I BE A NEIGHBOR?"

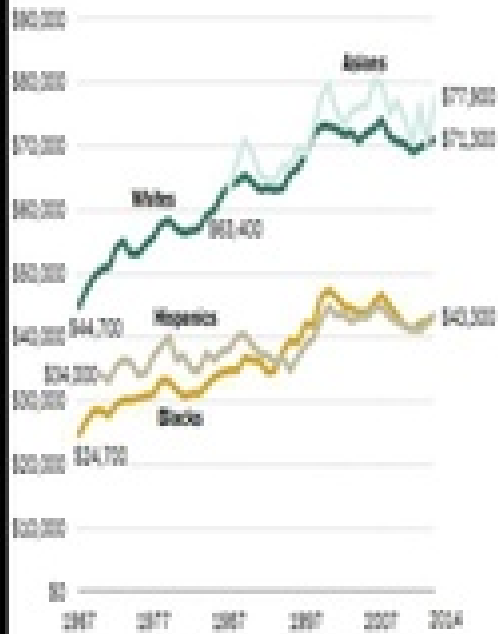
- V 36, "proved to be a neighbor..."
 - His eyes are not on himself but others
 - 1 Cor 13:5, "love does not seek its own"
 - Jer. 22:3, Thus says the LORD, "Do justice and righteousness, and deliver the one who has been robbed from the power of *his* oppressor... Micah 6:8

2. WE MUST BE CONVERTED TO
SEE INJUSTICE AND THEN
ENGAGE IT.

- A. He **did not see a "Jew"** but a person valued by God and in need of a helping hand!
- Gal. 3:28. "In Christ, there is neither Jew nor Greek..."
 - Jer. 22:3 'Thus says the LORD, "**Do justice and righteousness, and deliver the one who has been robbed from the power of his oppressor. Also do not mistreat or do violence to the stranger, the orphan, or the widow;**

Racial gaps in household income persist

Median adjusted household income in 2014 dollars



Note: Income standardized to a household size of three and is reported for the calendar year prior to the survey year. For details, see methodology. Reported ethnicity are based upon the race and ethnicity of the head of household. Whites, Blacks and Asians include only those who reported a single race. Native Americans and mixed-race groups not shown. Data for whites, Blacks and Asians from 1970 to 2014 include only non-Hispanics. Data for whites and Blacks prior to 1970 include Hispanics. Data for Hispanics not available prior to 1970. Data for Asians not available prior to 1987. Asians include Pacific Islanders.

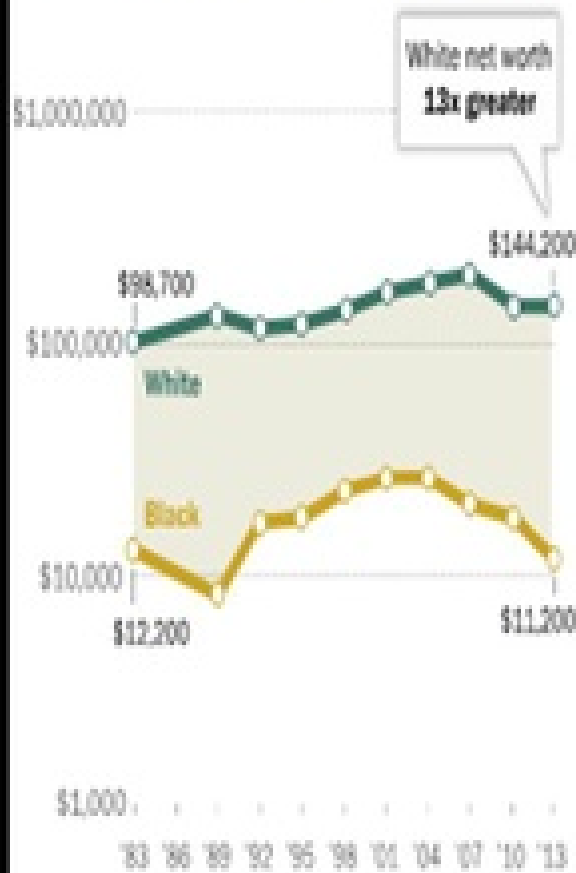
Source: Pew Research Center tabulations of the 1980-2013 Current Population Survey Annual Social and Economic Supplements (PANS)

On Issues of Race and Inequality, Do Whites and Blacks Agree?

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Whites have significantly higher levels of wealth than blacks

Median net worth of U.S. households in 2014 dollars



\$1,000,000
\$100,000
\$10,000
'83 '86 '89 '92 '95 '98 '01 '04 '07 '10 '13

3. WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THE CHURCH ONLY SEES JUSTICE FOR ITS OWN "COLOR"?

- Notice the characters:
 - Priest was blind
 - Levite was blind
 - The Samaritan had eyes to see.
- Church is more segregated than the world.
- Rev 7:9, "...from every nation and tribes and peoples and tongues, standing before the throne..."

NEXT STEPS

1. Become informed of racial issues, facts.
2. Adopt a school class in Baltimore County providing supplies, equipment, etc.
 - www.adoptaclassroom.org
3. Invite someone to lunch not like you.
4. Take control of your tongue. James 1:26; racial jokes are not funny.
5. Talk to someone different than you about racial prejudice. We need to talk about it. Sunday night service?