



SOLVING THE RELATIONSHIP RUBIK'S CUBE SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS WEEK 9

1. Read 1 Samuel 16:7. What does this verse tell us about how God looks at people? Martin Luther King made a famous statement about how he desired for people to view others, what did he say? Do you think this is what God is saying in this verse?

Answer – God looks at the heart of a person, not at anything external about a person. That is how He judges what a person is like. Martin Luther King made the statement, “I dream of a day when my children will be judged by the content of their character and not the color of their skin”. He was actually a pastor and that comment came directly from his knowledge of how God judges people.

2. Read Genesis 3:28. What do you think it means when it says that God created Adam and Eve in His own image? The Bible does not tell us what Adam and Eve’s skin color was, but how do you think we got so many different skin colors from just two people? Does this mean that everyone who is a descendent of Adam and Eve are also in God’s image?

Answer – Being in God’s image means that there are ways in which we are like God. This is not a physical likeness but an attribute likeness. God is a person, we are people. God has a will, we have a free will. God has an intellect, we have an intellect. God is eternal, we have a soul and spirit which are eternal. It is these attributes that make us valuable as humans and as such we are all exactly alike as humans. We have so many different skin colors because God created all of the possible combinations of skin colors in Adam and Eve’s DNA, so God created all of the different skin colors. This is what makes every human being valuable. God treats all people the same and so should we.

3. In John 4:1-9 we find the story of when Jesus stopped and spoke to the Samaritan woman at the well. Who were the Samaritans? How did the Jews view the Samaritans? Do you think that Jesus stopped in Samaria to talk to this woman to teach his Jewish disciples a lesson? What lesson?

Answer – The Samaritans were half-breed Jews. They were Jews who had married into Gentile families and as such were despised by the Jews because God had told the Jews not to marry into the Gentile nations that surrounded them. He said this not because these people were inferior to the Jews as humans, but instead because God knew that they would influence the Jews to worship false Gods, which actually happened. The Samaritans still worshipped the God of Israel, just not in Jerusalem where the temple was. Jesus did stop in Samaria and spoke with this woman for the exact reason to teach his disciples that they should not look down on any other human and that God cared for them equally.



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4. Pastor Rick said that racism was a sin problem, not a skin problem. What do you think he meant by that? Do you agree? Why or why not? If racism is a sin problem, what is the only true solution to racism? Do you think the government can actually eradicate racism?

Answer – Racism is a sin. God is against it and it has no place in the church or in society in general. But, since it is a sin problem, it is a spiritual problem and the solution is a spiritual solution. Governments will never be able to legislate racism away and has no power to change what must be changed, which is the human heart. Only as people trust Christ as Savior and are changed internally will racism have any chance of being defeated. This also tells us that this will be a problem until the time that Jesus returns to earth and sets up His kingdom and finally does away with sin.

5. What is the history of the abolition of slavery? What organization was responsible for the drive to do away with slavery in the world?

Answer – The move to abolish slavery began in England by a member of the British Parliament named William Wilberforce in the early 1700's. Wilberforce was a Christian who got the Christians in England to pass laws to abolish the slave trade in England. This was the first time in history that a country passed anti-slavery laws. The anti-slavery movement was always primarily driven by the church, Christians who knew it was against God's word. There is a great movie that your group could watch called "Amazing Grace" that is the story of William Wilberforce and his efforts to see slavery abolished. His views were adopted by many of America's founding fathers and Abraham Lincoln, as a Christian, believed what the Bible said about all men and women being created in God's image.