

Creating Unity Through Color Neutrality
March 5 & 6, 2022

Rubik's Cube Color Neutrality - A single phrase that refers to a speed cuber who can create the cross from any configuration of the 6 colors through a method called color neutrality.

Color Neutrality - When a Christian sees and respects all colors, finding unity with everyone. This happens by loving others through Christ who lives in me.

1 John 2:11 (ICB)

"But whoever hates his brother is in darkness. He lives in darkness and does not know where he is going. The darkness has made him blind."

John 7:24 (CEV)

"Don't judge by appearances. Judge by what is right."

What causes racism and prejudice? It's a $\underline{\sin}$ problem not a $\underline{\sinh}$ problem.

<u>Prejudice</u> - A preconceived opinion of another person not based on any reason or experience.

Racism - The belief that some races are superior to others.

Ephesians 2:11 (NLT)

"Don't forget that you Gentiles used to be outsiders. You were called 'uncircumcised heathens' by the Jews, who were proud of their circumcision, even though it affected only their bodies and not their hearts."

Ephesians 2:14 (NLT)

"For Christ himself has brought peace to us. He united Jews and Gentiles into one people when, in his own body on the cross, he broke down the wall of hostility that separated us."

Ephesians 2:18 (NLT)

"Now all of us can come to the Father through the same Holy Spirit because of what Christ has done for us."

3 Walls of hostility that block unity:

- 1. Hostility over religious beliefs.
- 2. Hostility over cultural and social differences.
- 3. Hostility over ethnic and racial diversity.

What can we do to break the walls of hostility and achieve color neutrality?



Recognize the sacrifice Jesus made to destroy racism and prejudice.

Ephesians 2:13-14 (NLT)

"But now you have been united with Christ Jesus. Once you were far away from God, but now you have been brought near to him through the blood of Christ. For Christ himself has brought peace to us. He united Jews and Gentiles into one people when, in his own body on the cross, he broke down the wall of hostility that separated us."

Practical Steps:

Pray for God to change my heart and open my spiritual eyes.

Psalms 51:10 (NLT)

"Create in me a clean heart, O God. Renew a loyal spirit within me."

Confess any prejudice or racism and let it go.

2 Chronicles 19:7 (NLT)

"Fear the LORD and judge with integrity, for the LORD our God does not tolerate perverted justice, partiality, or the taking of bribes."

2

Receive <u>everyone</u> with open arms who comes through the doors of Grace Church.

Ephesians 2:15-16 (NLT)

"He did this by ending the system of law with its commandments and regulations. He made peace between Jews and Gentiles by creating in himself one new people from the two groups. Together as one body, Christ reconciled both groups to God by means of his death on the cross, and our hostility toward each other was put to death."

Practical Steps:

- <u>Invite</u> people from all races and nationalities to church.
- <u>Serve</u> in a different neighborhood or community this year.

Matthew 5:9 (NLT)

"God blesses those who work for peace, for they will be called the children of God."

Acts 1:8 (NLT)

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Ephesians 2:18-21 (NLT)

"...Now all of us can come to the Father through the same Holy Spirit because of what Christ has done for us. So now you Gentiles are no longer strangers and foreigners. You are citizens along with all of God's holy people. You are members of God's family. Together we are his house... carefully joined together in him..."

Practical Step:

• <u>Use</u> our evangelism resources to open doors for the gospel.

Titus 2:11 (CEV)

"God has shown us undeserved grace by coming to save all people."



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