

The Race-Wise Family

STUDY GUIDE

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This study guide serves as a companion to the book *The Race-Wise Family: 10 Postures to Becoming Households of Healing & Hope*. It is intended for parents looking to lead their families to become race-wise or for adult small-group discussion.

INTRODUCTION

1. How often did your parents talk to you about race growing up? What memories do you have of race-related conversations from when you were a kid?
2. What does it mean to be a race-wise family?
3. Does it excite you or make you nervous about engaging race-related issues more as a family?

POSTURE ONE: VALUING MULTIETHNICITY

1. Recall a time when diversity was discussed in your church or school growing up. How was it presented to you? What were you taught?
2. How would you summarize what the Bible says about God's heart for multiethnicity?
3. How did it sit with you to read that “a majority of white evangelical Protestants say that becoming a majority non-white nation in the future will be mostly negative” (pp. 9–10)?
4. What is one practice that your family can begin incorporating to place a greater value on multiethnicity?

POSTURE TWO: SEEING COLOR

1. Were you taught to be colorblind growing up? Why or why not?
2. What does it mean to “see color” through a Christ-centered lens? What are the biblical benefits of seeing color?
3. What are ways that both you and your children can better see color in your everyday lives?

POSTURE THREE: UNDERSTANDING A BIBLICAL VIEW OF RACISM

1. Recall a time when you felt unsure of how to name a certain behavior or attitude that crossed the line into racism.
2. What is a concise definition of racism? What does the Bible say about racism?
3. What could it look like practically in our families “to proactively love those who are different from us and to examine the ways in which we knowingly or unknowingly support systems and structures that benefit any dominant group” (p. 37)?
4. After reading this chapter, what emotion best describes how you’re feeling about addressing racism with your children? Explain why.

POSTURE FOUR: OPENING OUR HEARTS TO LAMENT

1. How often do you watch the news with your kids?
2. Think of a race-related event in the past few years that impacted a community of color other than your own. Was it easy or difficult to empathize with the people affected? Explain why.
3. What phrase or idea about biblical lament from this chapter is sitting with you right now?
4. What is one practical way you can model healthy grief and compassion for your children?

POSTURE FIVE: SPEAKING WORDS OF LOVE AND TRUTH

1. Have you ever been on the receiving end of a racial slur? Have you ever communicated a racial slur toward someone else?
2. How would you define and differentiate the prophetic and pastoral voices that Scripture calls us each to have?
3. Do your friends and neighbors of other cultures know that you would stand up for them? Do they regularly hear verbal encouragement and affirmation from your family?
4. What is a practical way you can equip your children to speak truth and love?

POSTURE SIX: RESPONDING TO CURRENT EVENTS

1. What news channel do you usually watch (or read)?
Have you ever noticed reporters on this channel using harmful racial rhetoric?
2. What is narrative justice?
3. What is a race-related issue that you want to become more knowledgeable about?
4. What would it look like for your family to have Gospel-rooted news literacy?

POSTURE SEVEN: ADDRESSING PRIVILEGE

1. What is privilege?
2. What does the Bible say about privilege?
What is the biblical goal of deconstructing privilege?
3. In what ways are you privileged as well as disprivileged?
4. What is one way you can begin addressing privilege with your kids?

POSTURE EIGHT: ASSESSING OUR BIASES

1. Recall a time when you had an unconscious bias toward a person of another culture revealed to you. What was that experience like?
2. What are 1–2 simple steps you can take to increase your family’s awareness to racial biases?
3. Take the Multiethnicity Quotient assessment at the end of the book. What were your results? Do your results surprise you? In what ways do you need to grow right now?

POSTURE NINE: JOURNEYING TOWARD RACIAL HEALING

1. Recall a time you experienced racial trauma (either big T or little T trauma).
2. How would you define the terms “racial healing” and “resilience”?
3. What are your family’s current needs? What kind of safe space could you begin cultivating for your family?

POSTURE TEN: RAISING KINGDOM-MINDED CHILDREN

1. What is your child's typical response to national racial tragedies and injustice?
2. What are litmus tests we can use to differentiate Christ-centered responses versus culture-conforming responses to racial tragedies and injustice?
3. In what ways can your family become more kingdom-minded when it comes to issues of racial tragedies and injustice?