



**REASON #2:  
THE CHURCH  
IS RACIALLY SEGREGATED**

# The Problem of Division

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**Martin Luther King Jr. said, "It is appalling that the most segregated hour of Christian America is 11 o'clock on Sunday morning." In many ways, the church has remained more racially divided than the rest of society. That's just the reality. So this is one of those areas where I think we, as Christians, need to own that. We need to admit that we're not demonstrating racial reconciliation nearly as well as we could. Tim Keller recently said, "The future of Western culture and Western society is multi-cultural." So if Christians want to influence the world going forward, we can't remain isolated. We need to find ways to reach across ethnic barriers.**

# The Power for Unity

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**Jesus crossed the barrier from heaven to earth to get to us. And when he was here, he consistently crossed ethnic and cultural boundaries to reach people with the love of God. He made his Jewish contemporaries very uncomfortable with how ethnically diverse he was. So if we're going to be like Jesus, we'll follow that example. I am absolutely convinced that the most powerful force in the world for racial reconciliation is the gospel of Christ. The gospel removes any basis for prejudice or superiority or exclusion toward anyone. It doesn't matter if you're Asian or Hispanic or black or white; everyone is equal at the cross of Christ.**

# The Path Forward

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**The Chapel can't do everything. God doesn't expect us to suddenly become the United Nations, and single-handedly solve the problem of racial disunity in North Jersey. But here's the question: what does God expect of us? How has he positioned us?**

**And here's what I believe; and this is so exciting to me: I believe God has uniquely positioned and equipped The Chapel to demonstrate the reconciling power of the gospel to our community by living in deep friendship and unity with our Latino brothers and sisters in Christ.**

**At the end of the day, I don't worship and follow a Book; I worship and follow Jesus. And every time I open the Scriptures, I meet him and I reconnect with him. He's the one who's chipping away at my pride and my jealousy and my anger; he's the one who's making me a man of patience and compassion and forgiveness and generosity and courage. So I'm just thankful that the Bible keeps pointing me to Jesus.**

**Pastor Dave Gustavsen**

# Done with Church

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**TIME TO LEAN IN, LISTEN, & LEARN**