

## Faith & Racial Healing Overview of Sessions

**Saturday, February 20** Virtual Retreat (3 hours)

**Thursday, February 25**

**Session 1: The Big Picture of Racial Injustice** This session looks at the history of racial injustice in the United States from a broad perspective. Participants put together a timeline that spans from the genocide of Native Americans through the Immigration Act of 1990. Though sessions 2-8 will focus mostly on racism as it relates to African Americans and white people, the same patterns of oppression manifest themselves repeatedly, affecting other minority groups in similar ways. Session 1 seeks to introduce participants to some of those patterns, so that we can stop making the same mistakes and work together to end racialized oppression in all its forms.

**Thursday, March 4**

**Session 2: The Middle Passage** This session revisits the horrors of the Middle Passage. Participants process this difficult information through a spiritual practice of lament and remembrance.

**Thursday, March 11**

**Session 3: Recovering the Voices of the Enslaved** During this session, Participants work in small groups as they read and discuss the firsthand accounts of the enslaved, while learning from their faith, strength, and resilience.

**Thursday, March 18**

**Session 4: From Convict Leasing to Mass Incarceration** Over recent years, the public has grown more aware of the problem of mass incarceration. But many do not know that this system dates to convict leasing, which began during reconstruction and has morphed into the system in place today. This session traces the history of the mass incarceration, helping participants better understand the origins of the problem, so that they can better advocate for a justice system that is truly just.

**Thursday, March 25**

**Session 5: Confessing our History of Lynching** This session educates participants about lynching and terrorism inflicted upon black communities. At the end of this session, participants will creatively connect their learning to the Christian practice of confession.

**Thursday, April 1 – Holy Thursday** *no session*

**Thursday, April 8**

**Session 6: Civil Rights and the Struggle for Equal Education** Participants discuss how white resistance during school integration affected — and continues to affect — the education of our nation's children.

**Thursday, April 15**

**Session 7: The True Theology of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.** The Civil Rights Movement arose out of the prophetic tradition found in Scripture. During this session, participants explore the radical and challenging theology of Dr. King.

**Thursday, April 22**

**Session 8: Seeking Restoration** This session guides participants in discerning how they feel called to respond to current day racial injustice.