

# Confronting **Racism** as Spiritual Practice

*Book Study and Discussion hosted by  
DaySpring Baptist Church*



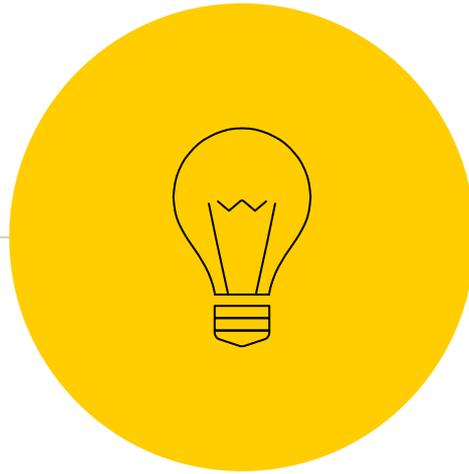
**Session 2: The Origins of Racial Conflict in Early America**

*Race and racism are **social constructs**.  
Racist attitudes produces different actions  
in 1619 than they did in 1919 or 2020.*

*-p. 19, The Color of Compromise*



“



# Theology

What did you learn about Christian teachings in early America through the Civil War?



## Relevant theological views

- Great Chain of Being
- Doctrine of the “Spirituality of the Church” (p. 95)
- Evangelicalism:
  - Bible
  - individual conversion
  - preaching the gospel
  - charity, benevolence
- God/Christ as liberator
- Christ as Suffering Servant
- Progressive revelation



1579 drawing of the Great Chain of Being from Didacus Valades, *Rhetorica Christiana*



## Holding presumed opposites in tension

- ◎ Sorrow- hope
- ◎ Despair – trust
- ◎ Law – grace
- ◎ The Bible’s acceptance of slavery- Biblical love and justice that promotes slavery’s abolition
- ◎ Earthly institutions– Kingdom of God
- ◎ Slaveholding Christianity– the Black Church
- ◎ Acknowledgement of sin– acceptance of forgiveness

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**Break**

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## Breakout groups



# Thanks!

*Any questions ?*



## Credits

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Special thanks to all the people who made and released these awesome resources for free:

- Presentation template by [SlidesCarnival](#)
- Photographs by [Unsplash](#)