

Introducing the Six R's of LivingUNDIVIDED



Root

Being rooted is about knowing, as a country and as individuals, the significance of current events in our nation and the connection to historical events in the past. It's about getting to know our history. For many of us, this could be uncomfortable. For others, it could be painful. But if we're going to make progress, we must ground ourselves by getting beneath the surface to examine the roots of our personal stories and the roots of our land. Coming face to face with our shared history is necessary if we are going to move to the next step.



Realize

Next we take a deeper look around to realize how we got to where we are, and to realize how that reality impacts our relationships and the lives of those around us. As we see like God sees, we can love like God loves. Throughout Scripture, we see ways Jesus makes the pain of others His own—He shows empathy. When someone else's problem or need not only makes sense to you, but you can feel it at your core, it becomes in part your problem as well.



Together, we must reckon with the systems and structures that prevent justice and true reconciliation. Right now we have the opportunity to restore our streets. We believe this is at the heart of the calls for racial justice coming out of our cities and hometowns on a daily basis. There are multitudes that simply want to be safe and be able to thrive in their own neighborhoods. Understanding the advantages and disadvantages in our lives and in the lives of others will allow us to move more meaningfully toward racial solidarity.



Once we explore our history, empathize with the experiences of others, and begin the hard work of restoration, how do we navigate our emotions and self-expression in ways to effectively repond? When we get this right, any risk we might fear is worth it. We get to experience the fullness and joy of building bridges of healing and justice. As we think about our way forward as a country, as we think about our way forward as the Church and as followers of Jesus, we must consider what it means to lean in-to lament, to confess, and to repent.



In Revelation 7, we see a vision that the apostle John had of the future heaven, with people from every tribe and tongue and language praising God. The engine that makes that possible, then makes that vision animated, and that makes that future a reality now on earth as it is in heaven is this multi-ethnic, multi-racial kingdom of God that was experienced in Antioch. God longs for us to pursue racial solidarity and justice through deep community. To do this, we must draw close with other congregations and leaders from other races and ethnicities. And in these spaces, we must be willing to have uncomfortable conversations, listen with empathy and care, and look inward to receive healing for our own brokenness and trauma, and pursue healing for our Church through conviction not condemnation.



What commitment will each of us resolve to make in order to live out justice around us? The work of racial solidarity starts with the individual, It starts with one person's heart changing. It starts with one person transforming their relationships. It starts with one person actively showing empathy. It starts with one person leaning in courageously to have difficult conversations, and working faithfully to pursue racial justice in the ways God has called them. It starts with an individual who will step out to motivate others. That individual is you. You have the courage to model this, to live this out, in your lifestyle, in your business, in your leadership, and in your family, for the sake of the next generation.

Voices of the LivingUNDIVIDED Curriculum

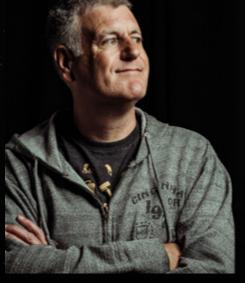


Chuck Mingo

Chuck is the founder of Courageous Love. He is also a pastor at Crossroads Church (Cincinnati), and a consultant for churches and organizations around the country on a variety of topics related to race relations and racial justice. Chuck received a degree in Business Administration from Duquesne University, and began his career rising to upper-management for the sales team at Proctor & Gamble (PNG). Part of his life's work is to help ministry leaders stand in places where people view the church as irrelevant regarding injustice and offer them a different picture of Jesus. Chuck is the proud husband of Maria, who he has been married to for the better part of two decades. They have three children. and live in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Troy Jackson

Troy Jackson is a Community organizer, leader and writer, and has been with Courageous Love since its founding. He is a graduate of Princeton Theological Seminary and earned his Doctor of Philosophy degree in U.S. history from the University of Kentucky. Troy's book Becoming King: Martin Luther King, Jr. and the Making of a National Leader (The University Press of Kentucky, 2008) explores the critical role the grassroots Montgomery Movement played in the development of Dr. King. His other publications include his work as an editor on The Papers of Martin Luther King, Jr. Volume VI: Advocate of the Social Gospel (September 1948-March 1963) (University of California Press, 2007).



Brittany Wade



Brittany Wade is the COO of Courageous Love and the Founder of Wildfire Research. She is passionate about helping people & organizations find their story and next steps at the intersection of race, data, and faith. With a background in commercial market research, including seven years with Nielsen, previously being a research director with one of the country's largest churches, and her experience consulting around race and data, Brittany's combination of skills provides a variety of leadership experience and expertise to the UNDIVIDED team. Brittany has a degree in Business Administration, an MBA from Florida Agricultural & Mechanical University, and currently resides in Cincinnati, Ohio.

What Participants Are Saying

Since 2015, more than 500 groups have walked together through LivingUNDIVIDED's six-session journey. We've heard all kinds of reasons why people choose to participate. For some, race is a deeply personal issue because of their own experiences. For others, they're looking to expand their empathy in order to better connect with a coworker, neighbor, or friend. Time and time again, group members have walked away remarking how stunned they are at the transformation that has occurred in their own hearts and in their relationships. Here is what some have had to say:

Over the last few years, I've taken the strategies, knowledge and attitudes I've learned from LivingUNDIVIDED, as well as renewed commitment to racial justice, to make our residency more diverse and representative of the patients we care for. We're also developing a full anti-racism curriculum for the residency, including implicit bias training and training on responding to micro-aggressions.

Anna Goroncy

When I stepped into LivingUNDIVIDED I had no idea what would transpire. The years —make that a lifetime— of fear and pain were washed away through repentance, grace, forgiveness, and love. My own fears and pain were transformed through the understanding and acceptance of a white police officer in my group who empathetically was still, listened, and heard my story.

Janel Huddleston

UNDIVIDED has matured me to be bolder not only with my voice around race, but around discipleship. Usually when topics about race, religion, or politics come up, I am silenced. I have found myself speaking out to model grace, and also call out injustices. UNDIVIDED has provided an opportunity for me to join the conversation on race at an individual and community level.

Cameron Smedley



Who is LivingUNDIVIDED for?

LivingUNDIVIDED is designed for churches and faith-based organizations that are open and interested in exploring the intersection of faith and race.

Where did LivingUNDIVIDED get its start?

LivingUNDIVIDED began in 2015 as a ministry of Crossroads Church, a non-denominational church located in Cincinnati, Ohio. In 2020, it launched nationally as a separate organization.

How can I participate in LivingUNDIVIDED?

If you are a pastor or senior leader, you can bring LivingUNDIVIDED to your congregation. If you'd like to see what the program looks like before groups launch, you can participate in a preview experience.

How can I get involved if I'm not the pastor of my church?

We would love to help you share LivingUNDIVIDED with your church's leadership. You can learn more at www.undivided.com

When are groups offered?

Cohorts launch quarterly and last for six weeks.

Who leads LivingUNDIVIDED groups?

All LivingUNDIVIDED groups are led by trained graduates of our Courageous Love Learning Facilitator Academy and have an in-depth understanding of the content and vision.

Who can I expect to be in my group?

LivingUNDIVIDED groups are intentionally constructed to be racially diverse, and may also represent variations in gender, age, economic and marital status.

How much time should I plan to invest as a group member?

Each week during the six-week experience, you'll partipate in one, two-hour session. You'll spend about one additional hour per week on an assignment or personal study.

Do groups meet in person or online?

Currently, LivingUNDIVIDED is offered virtually on Zoom.

How can my company participate?

For non-faith based organizations, we offer WorkingUNDIVIDED. You can learn more at www.workingundivided.com

Ready to Join the Movement?

History has proven that the most effective movements for racial solidarity and justice are rooted in faith and love. The work of racial healing is for everyone.

Whether you're a church leader or someone interested in presenting LivingUNDIVIDED as an option to your church leadership, We hope you'll take your next step on the journey today.

Join the conversation at www.LivingUNDIVIDED.com.

