



A Joint Book Study

Converge Church & 1st Presbyterian Church Thursday Nights in June from 7:00 – 9:00 pm

Rev. Stuart Spencer and Pastor Jonathan M. Leath believe that the church should model and champion unity. Recognizing the constant need for open and honest dialogue, these two pastors decided to do a book study to use the scriptures to inform, direct and guide their community through difficult discussions about race. The book “Gracism: The Art of Inclusion” by Dr. David A. Anderson was selected as the basis for the four-week study.

Purpose: To be a community of Christ-followers who can build solid and lasting relationships regardless of the color of our skin.

Here is the format for our month-long discussion:

Week 1	6/3/21	7-9p	Intro to Gracism: Chs 1-3	Dr. Anderson, Rev. Spencer, Pastor Leath
Week 2	6/10/21	7-9p	Gracism Sayings: Chs 4-5	Rev. Spencer & Pastor Leath
Week 4	6/17/21	7-9P	Gracism Sayings: Chs 6-8	Rev. Spencer & Pastor Leath
Week 5	6/24/21	7-9P	Gracism Sayings: Chs 9-11	Rev. Spencer & Pastor Leath

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: How will the sessions be conducted, and what is the format?

A: The sessions will take place over Zoom and will have 35-40 minutes in instruction and 50 minutes spent in breakout sessions. After the breakout sessions, we will end in prayer.

Q: How can I get a copy of the Gracism book?

A: Contact Converge Church (856)234-3791 or First Presbyterian Church (856)235-1688. You can also get a copy on Amazon.

Q: I don't want to ask the wrong question or offend people. Should I be a part of these discussions?

A: Yes, we are all learning. At the beginning of the sessions, we will let everyone know that these discussions are founded in Galatians 3:28, John 17:20-23, Rev. 7:9. We are in this together!

Q: I can't attend all of the sessions, should I take part in this study?

A: Yes. While we would like you to attend all of the sessions, we encourage you to sign up anyway.

Q: Race has always been a hotbed issue. Are these sessions only about race?

A: God only made one race, the human race. We are going to talk about loving each other despite our differences.

Q: I want to attend the groups, but I don't want to say anything. I will just listen.

A: We encourage you to attend and become actively engaged with the discussions – that's how growth happens.

Q: I want to be a breakout group leader, but I don't want to lead the group.

A: Great, the only job of the breakout group leader is to keep the time and make sure everyone gets an opportunity to answer the questions. If you want to volunteer to be a breakout group leader, please call Converge Church (856)234-3791 or First Presbyterian Church (856)235-1688.

Q: Other than attending the group, how can I serve?

A: Please pray. Whenever a sensitive topic like this is discussed, it can bring up emotions. Please pray for God's will be done during our time together, and the Holy Spirit will help build our community through fellowship and communication.

Important Information:

- We will assign people into groups, so you must sign up for the class no later than Sunday, May 30th.
- Zoom Login information will only be sent to those individuals who registered for the class.
- If you have trouble logging into the session, contact Peter Jonescu (714)768-2727.