

Christian Engagement in Culture and the Opportunity to Learn from the Challenge of Race

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Introduction:

The Death of Mandela and *12 Years A Slave* put the question of the legacy of racism and ethnocentrism in front of us. Though it may be in front of us, we may find ourselves tempted to avert our gaze.

Two Brief Personal Experiences: An EFCA Regional Conference and Regent University

- I. “Our” Issue and Our Mission: A commitment to Bible and the obligations of the gospel

- II. Dancing with history: Facing the world and society we have inherited in the modern West; why race remains a challenge for all of us in spite of improvements

- III. Considering the Experience of Minorities: What can the church learn... and perhaps anticipate in the future?

- IV. Considering Some Core Beliefs: How does our Christology, Soteriology and Ecclesiology lead us toward persistent and patient progress on the lingering question of race and the prospect of the evangelical church as a cultural minority?

- V. What Posture Should We Take: Faithful Presence, or something else?

- VI. To Consider: What vision might we have for the future?