

Values

Incompleteness

“For we know only in part, we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end.” 1 Cor. 13:9,10

Bravery

“...for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.” 2 Tim. 1:7

Honesty

“There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death.” Rom. 8:1,2

Humility

“Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle.” Jas. 3:1,2



**ADMIRAL CONGREGATIONAL
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

4320 SW Hill St.
Seattle, WA 98116
(206) 932-2928
officemgr@admiralchurch.org

THE IDOLATRY OF WHITENESS



**SIX SESSION STUDY OF
ANTI-RACIST PROPHETS**

ADMIRAL CONGREGATIONAL

United Church of Christ

The Idolatry of Whiteness: a 6-Part Study Series on Anti-Racist Prophets

Objectives

Define/Identify Modern Idolatry

In this Bible Study series, we will focus on the concept of “idolatry” as presented in the writings of the prophets of the Hebrew Bible.

In particular, we will consider:

- the role of wealth in establishing idols
- their intentional re-writing of history
- the de-centering of the transcendent

Define/Identify “Whiteness”

We will draw on modern scholars whose work has been focused on the phenomenology of “whiteness” as a racial/political/moral category of human beings. We will (quite briefly) explore its development, goals, and consequences for those who “pass” as white and those who do not.

In particular, we will consider:

- the role of defensiveness
- the power of individualism
- the myth of objectivity

Critically Engage Prophetic Calls to Dismantle Both

We will bravely apply our understandings of these two concepts to our own freedom (or lack thereof) and our obligations to our neighbors

Structure

**Six sessions, 90 min. each
Sundays 1:00-2:30 pm**

Oct. 13: Establishing the Group

- Values and Expectations
- Introduction to Idolatry

Oct. 20: Idolatry & Materiality

- The Reality of Wealth
- The Role of Defensiveness

Oct.27: Idolatry & History

- Re-Writing Our Memory
- Individualism Whitewash

Nov. 3: Idolatry & Transcendence

- De-centering God in Life
- Proclaiming Objectivity

Nov. 10: Idolatry & Exile

- Consequences & Justice
- The Pain of Seeing Anew

Nov. 17: Liberation & Renewal

- The Power of Repentance
- The Need for Relationship

Expectations

\$20 Registration Fee

This fee covers refreshments for each session, as well as printed materials.

Weekly Reading Assignments

These will include excerpts from the Hebrew prophets and excerpts from modern prophets on race and whiteness in particular. There will be extension reading material available for students who want to go deeper.

Journaling Prompts

These will help deepen students’ engagement with the readings and prepare them for class. Students will not be required to share their writing.

Discussion Participation

Students will be expected to engage with one another and the facilitator verbally each session. We expect to learn from one another as well as the prophets (our teachers). We will hold one another accountable to the values which guide this series (listed on the reverse).