

Your Reproach is My Reproach:

In Quest of Solidarity

Romans 15:1-7

Eruptions reveal hidden realities typically restrained and forgotten

The racialized sins of our nation continue to plague us with unimaginably deep roots

The 2014 death of Eric Garner and the Black Lives Matter movement

The recent dominoes: Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, Central Park, George Floyd

Iceberg realities

Whiteness and white privilege

David Swanson: **Rediscipling the White Church**

I am not unconsciously racist; the prevalence of implicit bias

I am not responsible for my forebears; we are responsible for what we do with our inheritance

The analogy of the grandfather who stole a property now your house

We have inherited a system that gives preference and advantages to white skin over dark skin

You can't see it, being white, unless it's pointed out: acclimation in a pool of water

The response: everyone has the same chance if they work hard

Analogy of two race cars: between a Ford Mustang and a Ford Pinto

What can white Christians do? We can come to terms with our own story.

Turning to Romans 15:1-7

The dicey cultural/ethnic situation in the church of Rome

Food often exposed the fragile relationships between Jew and Gentile

The principle of the obligation of the strong: verses 1-2

The principle of intercepting another's reproach: verse 3

The principle of seeing the one under reproach as if they were God Himself (see Ps 69:9)

The goal: harmony for the sake of "showing off God": verse 5,6

Summary: welcome one another as Christ welcomed us: verse 7

Welcome as concrete solidarity.

Possible Next Steps for Us at Highland

Swanson's thesis of discipleship over diversity

The white church has an important role to play in dismantling the power of racism

With the first work turning the light in on itself toward the goal of eschewing complicity

A team of people to chart a discipleship pathway for racial righteousness for Highland?