

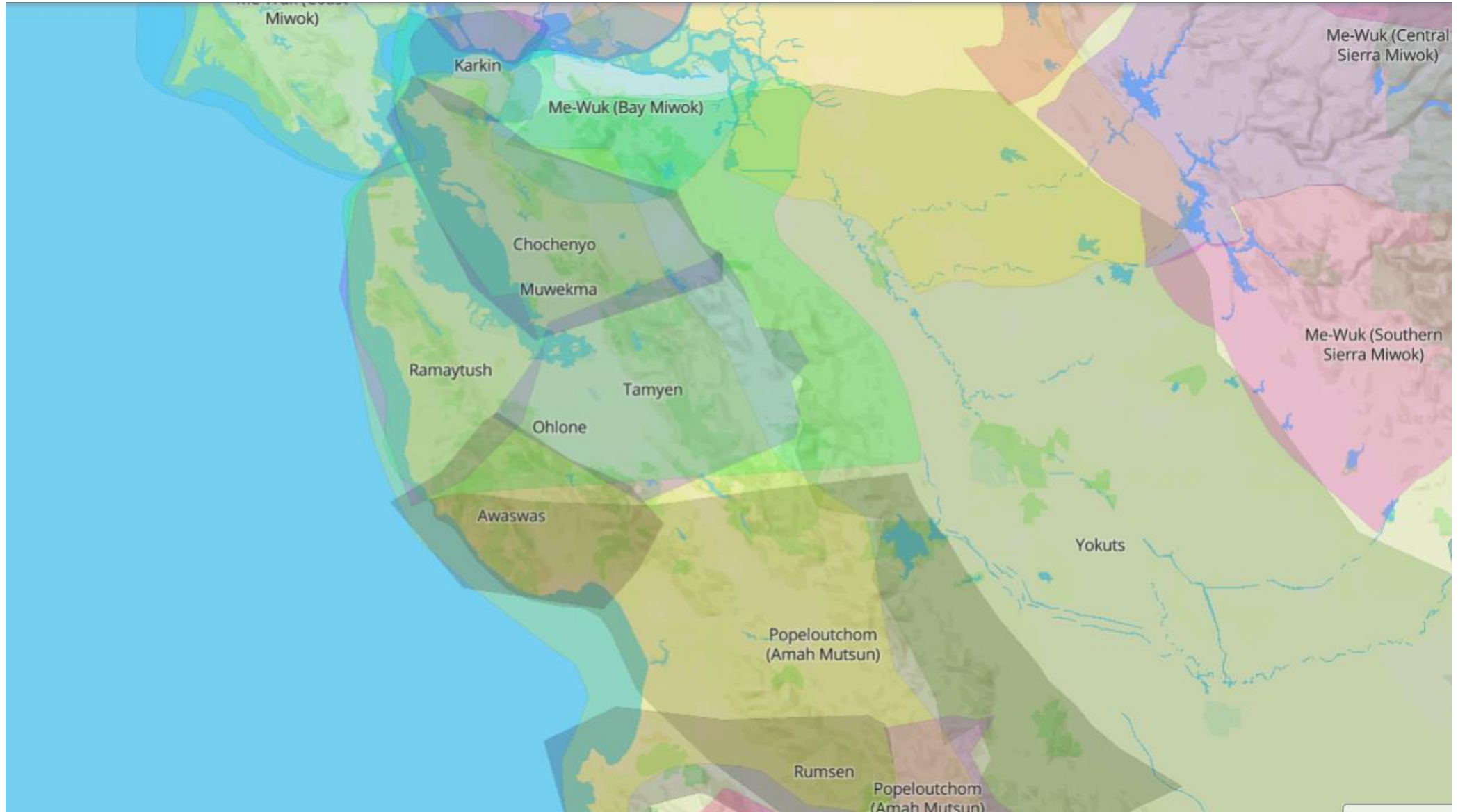
PRESBYTERY of
SAN FRANCISCO

*A ten week book study
featuring:*

WHAT LIES BETWEEN US

Led by:
Rev. Kamal Hassan

Prayers led by Rick Leong





May 12, 2021

“Representation, Stereotypes, and Bias”



Small group discussion for sharing



Teaching



Large group discussion

Session 7
May 12, 2021

“Representation,
Stereotypes, and
Bias”



What is the racial image of Jesus in your church? What theological message do you think it sends?



What are the ways “light” and “dark” are used in biblical imagery and storytelling? What ways could they be used in support of biased media representation, stereotypes, and implicit bias?

Respectful Communication Guidelines



R = take **RESPONSIBILITY** for what you say and feel without blaming others.



E = use **EMPATHETIC** listening.



S = be **SENSITIVE** to differences in communication styles.



P = **PONDER** what you hear and feel before you speak.



E = **EXAMINE** your own assumptions and perceptions.



C = keep **CONFIDENTIALITY**.



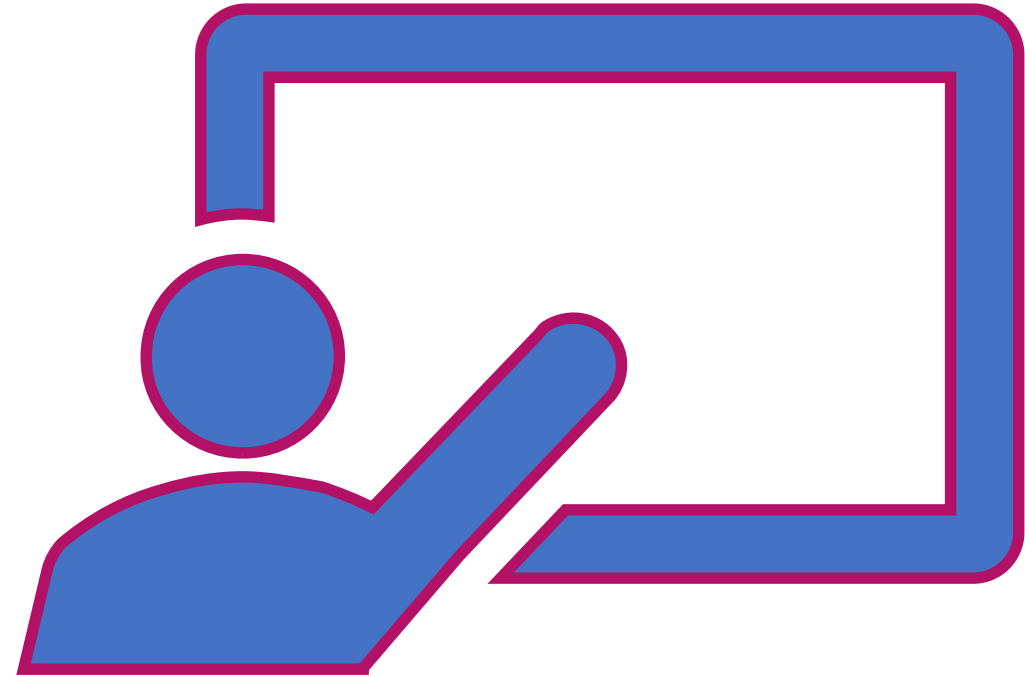
T = **TRUST** ambiguity because we are not here to debate who is right or wrong.

*Small Group
Discussion
(25 mins)*

What is the racial image of Jesus
in your church?
What theological message do
you think it sends?

Welcome
Back!

▶ Teaching



*Full Group
Discussion*

What are the ways “light” and “dark” are used in biblical imagery and storytelling? What ways could they be used in support of biased media representation, stereotypes, and implicit bias?



**Song of Solomon 1:5-8
(King James Version)**

5 I am black, but comely, O ye daughters of Jerusalem, as the tents of Kedar, as the curtains of Solomon.

6 Look not upon me, because I am black, because the sun hath looked upon me: my mother's children were angry with me; they made me the keeper of the vineyards; but mine own vineyard have I not kept.

7 Tell me, O thou whom my soul loveth, where thou feedest, where thou makest thy flock to rest at noon: for why should I be as one that turneth aside by the flocks of thy companions?

8 If thou know not, O thou fairest among women, go thy way forth by the footsteps of the flock, and feed thy kids beside the shepherds' tents.

**Song of Solomon 1:5-8
(New Revised Standard Version)**

5 I am black and beautiful,
O daughters of Jerusalem,
like the tents of Kedar,
like the curtains of Solomon.

6 Do not gaze at me because I am dark,
because the sun has gazed on me.
My mother's sons were angry with me;
they made me keeper of the vineyards,
but my own vineyard I have not kept!

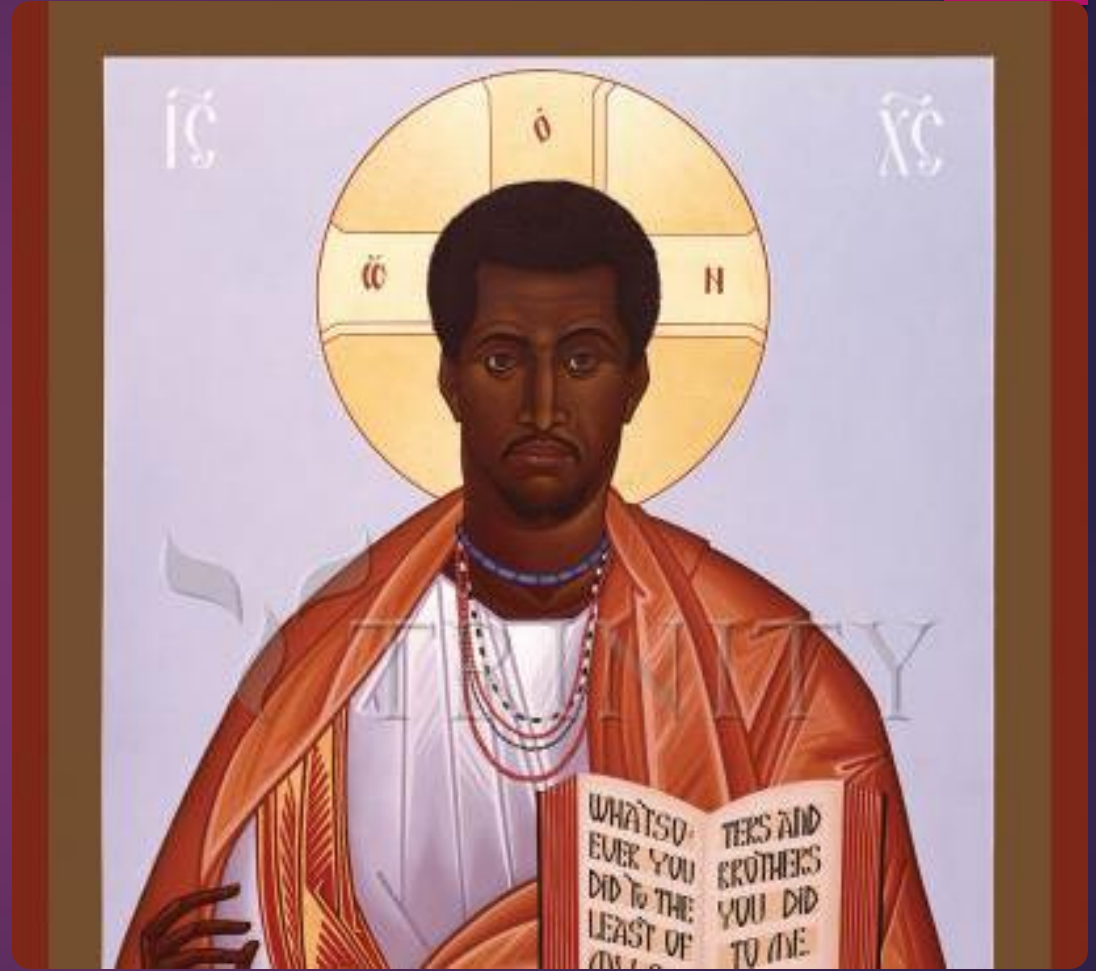
7 Tell me, you whom my soul loves,
where you pasture your flock,
where you make it lie down at noon;
for why should I be like one who is veiled
beside the flocks of your companions?

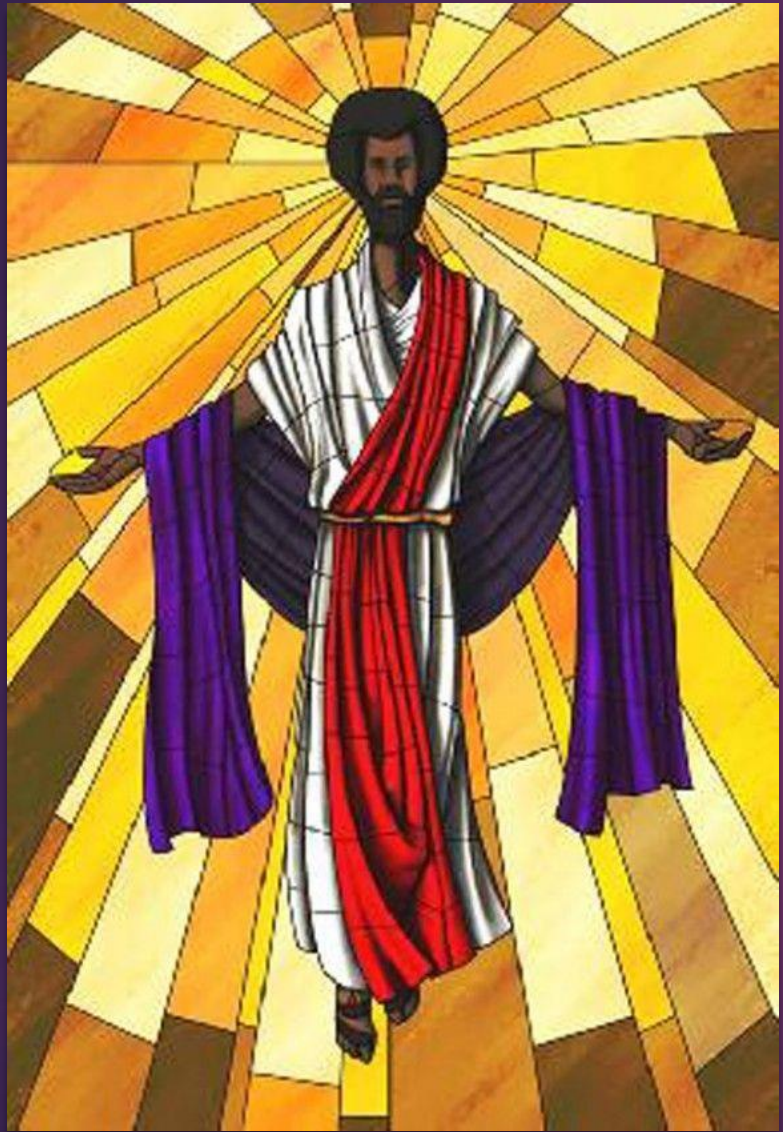
8 If you do not know,
O fairest among women,
follow the tracks of the flock,
and pasture your kids
beside the shepherds' tents.

Song of Songs 1:5-6

A Midrash

I am
Black and beautiful
O daughters of Jerusalem,
like the tents of Kedar, like the curtains of Solomon.
Do not gaze at me because I am dark, because the sun has smiled
on me.
Look above you, is not the obsidian night the abode of the brightest
star?
Look below you, is not the ebony earth that receives your seed the
sacred womb of all that lives above and below?
My mother's sons were angry with me. They could only see beauty
in porcelain and alabaster. They believed not in the holiness of the
dusky circles around my sable nipples that taste of sweetest figs.
They would not lay their heads upon coarse onyx grass like that of
my secret garden. They chose to walk ahead of me on the street,
the blind leading the sublime.
I am dark and lovely, O daughters of Jerusalem. The blacker the
berry the sweeter the juice. Fill your cup and let it overflow.
When there was nothing, I was. Look upon me and be renewed!







Homework

Work
through

Pages 85-92

Blog

Topic:
How I felt while listening to the
podcast

Listen

Listen to a podcast from
*This American Life: The problem We
All Live With*