# RAISING PEACEMAKERS

**CONVERSATIONS ABOUT JESUS, RACE, + PARENTING** 





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## RAISING PEACEMAKERS WEEK 2: BIRTH THROUGH PRESCHOOL



While this stage of parenting is so physically demanding, it also sets the building blocks for raising peacemakers through what we expose our little ones to and how we talk about racial diversity.

## CENTERING EXERCISE

Matthew 19:13-15 - "Let the little children come to me"

#### **STORIES**

What ages are the kids you're thinking about tonight? \_\_\_\_\_

### HISTORICAL



## **DEVELOPMENTAL**

+	As early as months, a baby's brain can notice race-based differences. (SOURCE)
+	By ages, children can internalize racial bias. (SOURCE)
+	Children become aware of differences in physical characteristics of human beings when they are years old. ( <u>SOURCE</u> )
+	year-olds, particularly white ones, show unmistakable signs of the onset of racial bigotry. (SOURCE)
+	By age, children are aware of the social construct of race but are in the early stages of racial identity development. ( <u>SOURCE</u> )
+	Their questions are curious, not judgmental. How we respond to them reflects our own levels of discomfort, shame, and racial bias. Their curiosity could very well be the Holy Spirit prompting them toward justice and peacemaking.

## PARENTING PRACTICALS

DO'S DONT'S

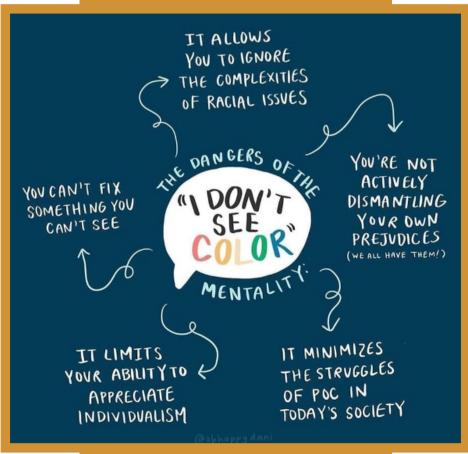




- Teach their kids that people matter more than skin color
- Make sure their child's library is racially diverse
- Share movies and shows featuring people of color with their kids
- Talk about privilege and what it means

- Teach their kids that skin color deeply affects how people view us
- Intentionally include books that go beyond slavery + the civil rights movement
- Use media to point out examples of racism + stereotypes
- Give children contextual examples of their privilege, like being able to shop without being followed

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### CHOOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE.

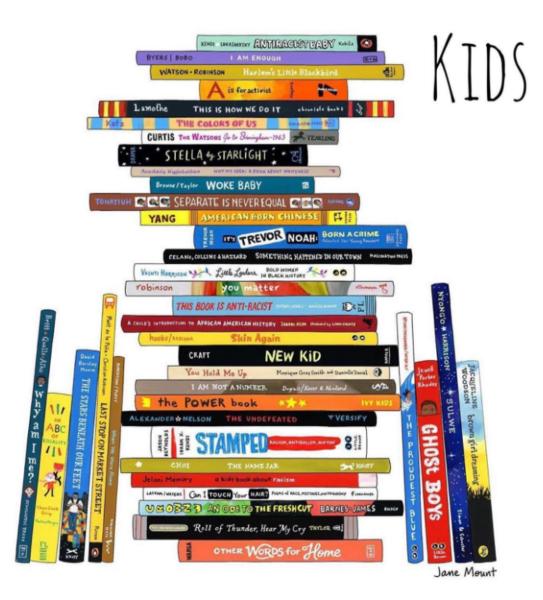
Comprehensive list will also be available at <a href="https://www.ezerandco.com/raising-peacemakers">https://www.ezerandco.com/raising-peacemakers</a>. Information does not equal transformation. Transformation comes as we do the work.

#### **REFLECT + DISCUSS:**

- + What books are on my child's bookshelf, especially spiritual books?
- + How much racial diversity is reflected in your child's media (music, TV, books)?
- + What is the racial makeup of your child's preschool, including administration, teachers and students?

#### **READ:**

You can see all recommendations with our Amazon <u>affiliate link</u>. Better yet? Purchase resources from a Black Owned Bookstore!





#### DO:

- $\pm$  Learn and celebrate African-American traditions and holidays, like Juneteenth.
- + Get involved in your child's school, your place of worship, and politics. Parents who are involved in this way are better able to advocate for fair treatment of racially marginalized groups and raise awareness of race issues in other groups.
- + Plan a playdate with a black family.

#### **FOLLOW ON INSTAGRAM:**

- + Curious Parenting @curiousparenting
- + Social Justice Parenting @socialjusticeparenting



<sup>\*</sup> If you purchase the resources with this affiliate link, Ezer + Co. will earn a small commission.