

WHY “BLACK LIVES MATTER”?

IT’S A CHURCH ISSUE.

To insist that black lives matter, for followers of Jesus, is to believe that all are created in the image of God. We have done all kinds of things to distort this image, but God is restoring it and reconciling the world. We are called to join in that work.

IT’S ABOUT EQUALITY.

To insist that black lives matter is to insist that persons of color deserve equal dignity and concern as all other persons, without exception.

IT’S CONTEXTUAL.

To insist that black lives matter is not less than insisting that all lives matter. We specifically insist that black lives matter because the historical and contemporary injustice done to people of color demands it.

IT’S EVERYONE’S—AND NO ONE’S.

To insist that black lives matter is not to endorse individual groups or positions or to oppose police as persons. It is not a justification of violence but a rejection of violence in every form.

IT’S NOT ENOUGH.

To insist that black lives matter means we must be willing to have difficult conversations with others—and with ourselves. We must listen. We must acknowledge. We must repent. We must speak up. We must act.

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