

**Racism**  
**Oakwood Christian Church Position Paper**  
**July 2009**



The stance of Oakwood Christian Church on the issue of racism is that racial prejudice is a sin that can only be eradicated through the powerful grace and love of Jesus Christ, and that the church should be a frontrunner in the fight against racial division. The New Testament makes it clear that all people, regardless of racial background, are one in Jesus (Gal. 3:28), and we are commanded not to show favoritism (James 2:1-9). Heaven is to be filled with people “from every tribe and language and people and nation” (Rev. 7:9). If we will be spending eternity together in heaven, we would be wise to learn how to get along on earth!

It is our conviction that the most successful way to overcome racism is to win people to Jesus Christ and allow him to transform their hearts and minds. Our primary goal, then, is to transform lives so that people are surrendered to Jesus Christ and their hearts are changed. In addition, we have sought as a church to fight against racism in several ways, including instructing our members to love one another and those outside our fellowship regardless of race, encouraging minorities to be involved in leadership and service in our church.

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