

DISMANTLING RACISM: YOUTH CURRICULUM

The Diocese of Atlanta believes in the work of Dismantling Racism. Previously, the majority of the work around this issue in our diocese was done with adults. We wanted to begin doing this work with our young people. In January 2017, we began developing a new curriculum to address these issues with middle and high school youth. The first draft of the curriculum was completed in July of 2017. During the 17-18 school year, 8 parishes of our diocese piloted the curriculum with over 100 youth in participation. After receiving feedback, we made course refinements and are now ready to share our work with anyone and everyone. Let us continue to be Christians that address tough issues choosing love over all else.

Dismantling Racism Lesson Overview

Lesson 1—Introduction and Covenant

Creating an agreement on how we will relate to God, each other, and ourselves in discussing this subject, and learning the stories of those who have already started to dismantle the effects of racism in their own lives.

Lesson 2—God, The Artist

Witnessing the beautiful diversity of all God's creation, including all of humanity, and recognizing that every people, race, language, culture, and ethnicity on earth bears God's image, revealing something wonderful about who God is.

Lesson 3—History of Racism in America: How we Got Here

Bringing to light the deep roots of systemic racism throughout our country's history is needed before we can truly understand the pain from racism we are seeing today, and what is needed to dismantle it.

Lesson 4—White Privilege

Understanding how racist systems give advantages to certain groups (and disadvantage others), and how to respond when we find ourselves in a place of privilege.

Lesson 5—Internalized Oppression

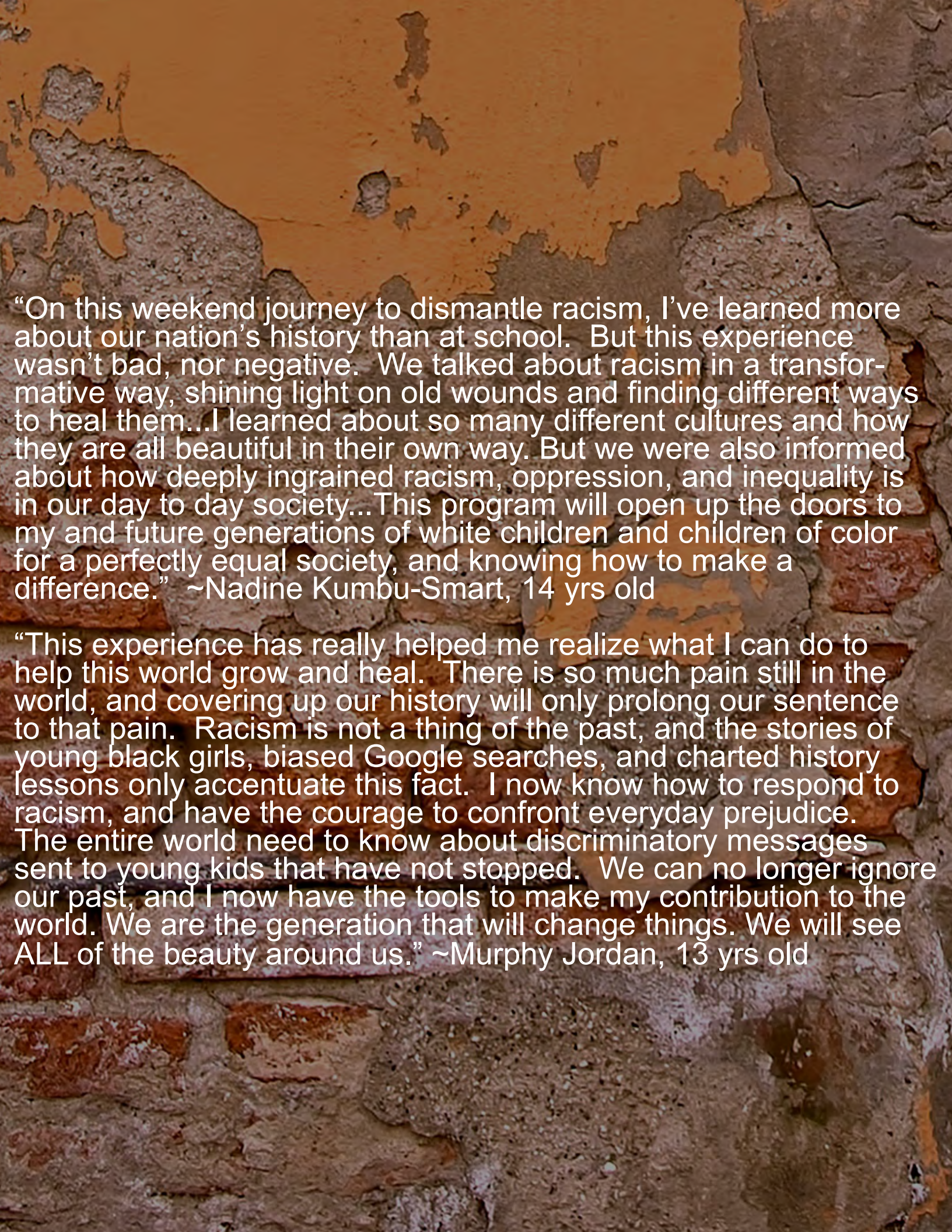
Understanding how racism negatively affects disadvantaged groups, particularly their understanding of their own identity, and beginning to choose God's understanding of what makes people valuable.

Lesson 6—Repentance, Healing, and Reconciliation

Understanding that even though we didn't create racism, we have a responsibility to dismantle it, and, learning from the example of the Prophets, we will start to turn toward each other through naming racism in all its forms as sin, and resolving to turn away from it (confession and repentance).

Written by Sally Ulrey and Katie McRee

IN COLLABORATION WITH
THE ABSALOM JONES CENTER FOR RACIAL HEALING



“On this weekend journey to dismantle racism, I’ve learned more about our nation’s history than at school. But this experience wasn’t bad, nor negative. We talked about racism in a transformative way, shining light on old wounds and finding different ways to heal them...I learned about so many different cultures and how they are all beautiful in their own way. But we were also informed about how deeply ingrained racism, oppression, and inequality is in our day to day society...This program will open up the doors to my and future generations of white children and children of color for a perfectly equal society, and knowing how to make a difference.” ~Nadine Kumbu-Smart, 14 yrs old

“This experience has really helped me realize what I can do to help this world grow and heal. There is so much pain still in the world, and covering up our history will only prolong our sentence to that pain. Racism is not a thing of the past, and the stories of young black girls, biased Google searches, and charted history lessons only accentuate this fact. I now know how to respond to racism, and have the courage to confront everyday prejudice. The entire world need to know about discriminatory messages sent to young kids that have not stopped. We can no longer ignore our past, and I now have the tools to make my contribution to the world. We are the generation that will change things. We will see ALL of the beauty around us.” ~Murphy Jordan, 13 yrs old