



LOVING

How do we love in a time like this? When we started the “Prairie Page” a couple months ago we asked that question in relation to the impact Covid-19 was having on our ability to continue loving in a more “virtual world.” More recently, it seems appropriate to reflect on that question in light of the issues around racism and hatred.

Our goal in our communications with you has been to provide you with short, easily accessible information. But this time, we encourage you to take an hour or so to watch this [video](#) of a panel discussion among 3 Christian educators in the US, and one alumni, all of whom are people of colour. The issues connected to this topic are not done justice in quick reads or views, but instead require our time and attention, so take some time to wrestle with the topic in the context of Christian education. We recognize that the context in the US is different than in Canada, but we have our own history and present manifestations of racism. Listening to the stories and advice of the panelists will be transferable to our Canadian Christian schools..

In the video, they mention “[An Open Letter from Christian Educators on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in America.](#)” We encourage you to read through and reflect on ways we can commit to change and continue to learn to love in a time like this.

LEARNING

June provides an excellent opportunity to reflect back on your year, celebrate your journey and look for ways to grow for the upcoming year. A grade 5 teacher on Twitter (@hodge_dv) recently posted: “Today my students listed about 20 things they actually like about remote learning, and we quickly turned the list into changes I need to make to my classroom next year.” Before the end of the school year, take the time to gather student feedback and imagine ways you could use this year’s unique experience to improve your future practices... no matter what the 2020/2021 school year looks like.

Keep next week Wednesday, **June 10th, at 2:30** open so you can join our book club focused on David Smith’s “On Christian Teaching.” The meeting will be focusing on chapters 8-10. Even if you haven’t joined us before, we think you will appreciate the conversation and connection. We will send out the Zoom meeting link in next week Tuesday’s “Prairie Page.”

LEADING

Reminder that if you want to learn more about Crew contact [Jeremy](#) to be

included in an informational Zoom. Also, if you'd like to coordinate some professional development for your staff, please contact [Gayle](#) or [Jeremy](#) (see the email sent yesterday for more details).

Make sure you (school-based leaders and boards) watch the video mentioned above and then engage your community in reflective dialogues. As leaders we have the opportunity and responsibility to lead hard conversations with our communities. Here are a few questions to get you started: what surprised you, what resonated with you, what made you uncomfortable, how is our school doing in these areas & how do we know, how representative of our community is our school (students & staff), do our resources/materials reflect diversity, how is racial reconciliation addressed, what do we know and teach about the Canadian racism context, what else do we need to know, what's my next step (individual and school)?

Want to Join Slack?

Just click the link below.

https://join.slack.com/t/prairiecentre-j1s2789/shared_invite/zt-e5korf8-nWhzVHedexcaXwWbn5zlmw

