

Rev. Neil Dunnivant

Sisters and Brothers in Christ, I commend to your reading [this important essay](#) from our friend and colleague Jimmie Hawkins. By becoming a Matthew 25 church, we have promised to work on ending structural racism. Pastor Hawkins here gives us some practical advice.

This is also an important time to read or re-read books that help us understand how blatant and insidious racism still is in our nation.

Recently church groups have been reading *The Cross and the Lynching Tree* by James Cone and *Just Mercy* by Bryan Stevenson. You may also want to watch the [Just Mercy film](#).

Or go back to great classics like *The Invisible Man* by Ralph Ellison or *Native Son* by Richard Wright or *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee.

The one I am eager to read is *Wilmington's Lie: The Murderous Coup of 1898 and the Rise of White Supremacy* by David Zucchino -- just published this year.

The Good Book commands us to be doers and not just hearers of the Word, so our learning and understanding must always follow with action and solidarity.

I hope you will join me in praying for both justice and peace and the burning conviction that we are all equally God's children.