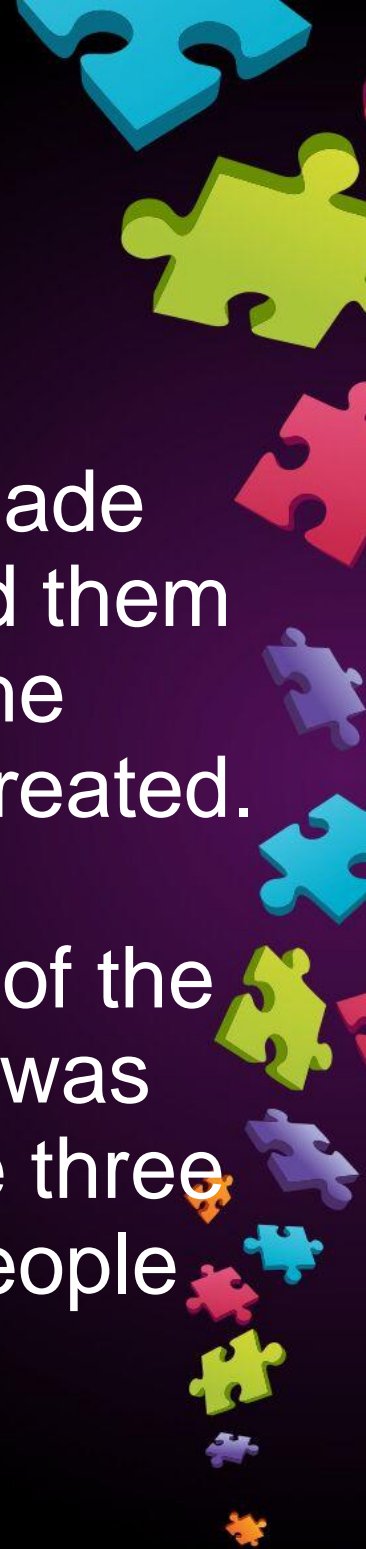




Humankind is a family

Gen 5:1 When God created mankind, he made them in the likeness of God. 2 He created them male and female and blessed them. And he named them “Mankind” when they were created.

Gen 9:18 The sons of Noah who came out of the ark were Shem, Ham and Japheth. (Ham was the father of Canaan.) 19 These were the three sons of Noah, and from them came the people who were scattered over the whole earth.



Where do I belong?

- 1. People want to belong
- nations
- gangs
- tribes
- race
- This is the best...
- This is mine...
- Mine is the best...



We are all part of the “family” of God

- Why the idea of creation matters.
 - God has a hand in fashioning each person
 - We are each one fashioned/ not an accident
 - God brought us all from one root person (Adam)
 - Every life matters
 - If your life matters, is fashioned, placed here for a reason, then you “Belong.”



Why the idea of sin matters

Every race/person/nation/need redeeming

The fact that everybody sins levels playing field

“all have sinned”

There is no one “right” culture

There is no one “right” race

There is good and “sin” in every race

is preaching and teaching. 18 For Scripture says, “Do not muzzle



**The “brotherhood” of humanity
is sometimes lost in Christian
teachings**



Early Biblical tribalism

Some...

Lived in tents and raised livestock Gen 4:20

Played stringed instruments and pipes Gen 4:21

Made tools out of bronze and iron Gen 4:22

Were maritime people

Warriors built kingdoms and cities Gen 10:
“they have multiplied and filled the earth according to their clans and languages, territories and nations... Ethnicities with distinct cultures and languages were being created.”



Early Biblical tribalism

“Each of us has an ethnicity that God made for good, an ethnicity that is beautiful in its distinctive particularities. Our ethnic identity is the backdrop in which God displays His goodness and creativity. We are made well in our specific and God given ethnic backgrounds, not in spite of them.”

Beyond Colorblind by Sarah Shin



The good of white Americans:

- Experience grace on a personal level
- Every life valued
- Individual intimacy with God
- Encouraged to speak up
- Individual stewardship of voice, ideas, money, work
- Taught to hope and dream
- Value independent and autonomous children

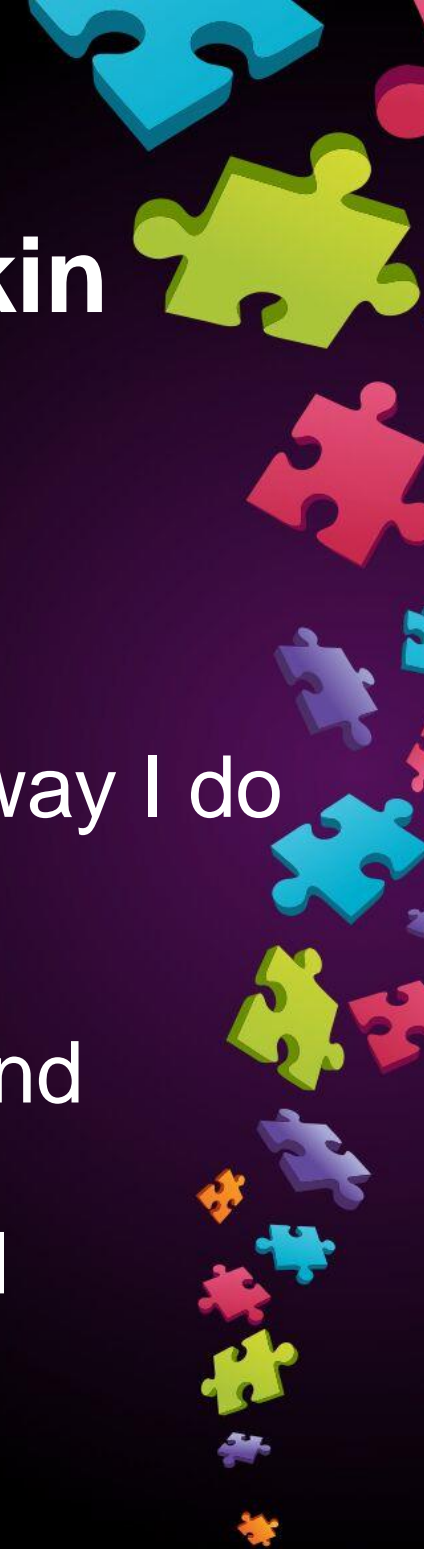
The good in Asian Americans:

- Honor elders and parents
- Honoring the other person is of highest value
- The bringing of gifts
- “Group think” is hospitable and loving
- Want children to be safe and secure



Be comfortable in your skin

- I am a white man...
- I think like a white man
- I “see” life like a white man
- Assume the world thinks in the same way I do
- I preach the gospel like a white man
- Individualism
- Taught my daughters/others to hope and dream
 - Bring the best of who you are to God
 - Confess the sin(s) in who you are



Allow/encourage others to be comfortable in their skin

- How must the gospel be preached...
 - In the Asian community so Asian's will respond?
 - In the black community so a black person will respond?
 - In a Middle eastern community?
 - In an Island community in the Pacific?



So what?

- Examine 'HOW' you think.
- “Who am I?” is a big, big question.
- Are you willing to admit that “my way is not necessarily the right way?”
- What are the barriers to you (personally) valuing other cultures and ethnicities?
 - Personal history?
 - Do you see other ethnicites as your relatives?
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