

## Black History Month - February 2021

Some wonderful suggestions to get you started:

### Books:

Caste: The Origins of Our Discontent by Isabel Wilkerson. A great summary of Black History and the caste system in America.

The Warming of Other Suns by Isabel Wilkerson. Stories of the "Great Migration" told through the eyes of 3 people who fled the Jim Crow South for better opportunities in New York City, Chicago and Los Angeles.

"Racism in Kansas City: A Short History" by C.S. Griffin.

The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness by Michelle Alexander. How the U.S. criminal justice system functions as a contemporary system of racial control, even as it formally adheres to the principle of colorblindness.

The Color of Compromise: The Truth about the American Church's Complicity in Racism by Jemar Tisby. How people of faith have historically, up to the present day, worked against racial justice. (EmbRace is partnering with St. Terese Little Flower in a book club to discuss this book. Please let's know if you would like to be a part of those discussions.)

Four Hundred Souls: A Community History of African America. Editors Ibram X. Kendi and Keisha N. Blain. Newly published anthology of the 400-year history of Black history in America. Eighty authors each write short essays covering 5 years of history of everyday people. The essays are interspersed with works by 10 poets. Although just released this appears to be a wonderful read giving further insight to Black lives throughout U.S. history.

### Documentaries:

Reconstruction. A PBS 4-part documentary of the Reconstruction after the Civil War.

Driving While Black: Race, Space and Mobility in America. A PBS documentary about how the automobile brought freedom but also discrimination and deadly violence to Black Americans.

The Land of Opportunity. A Kansas City PBS short documentary of a local neighborhood's fight against racially restrictive housing policies.

The Black Church. A PBS documentary exploring the 400-year history of the Black church in America. (Airing Feb 16 and 23 at 8:00 PM.)

### Films:

Harriet. A film about Harriet Tubman, an enslaved person and abolitionist of the 1860's and her efforts to lead other enslaved persons through the South to freedom in the North.

13<sup>th</sup>. A film (currently on Netflix) exploring the intersection of race, justice, and mass incarceration in the United States. It is titled after the Thirteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution abolishing slavery.

*EmbRace Justice Ministry - If you would like to find out more about our ministry for racial justice please contact Doug Kinney at 816-582-9200.*