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**What Do I Know?**

In the space below, write what you know about the history of race and Christianity in the United States. If you don't know where to start, think about themes, events, people, and texts.

**What Do I Want to Know?**

In the space below, write about what you want to know about the history of race and Christianity in the United States.

**What Do I Believe?**

When starting to learn about a new topic, it can be helpful to think about what beliefs and assumptions we already have about it.

Answer the questions below. Leave the "Reflection" section blank until you have answered all the questions.

1. What do you believe are the main causes of racial issues in the United States?

a. What evidence do you have for your belief?

b. Reflection:

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2. How much progress do you think the country has made on racial issues from the colonial era to the present?

a. What evidence do you have for your belief?

b. Reflection:

3. What role do you think Christianity has played in the history of race in the United States?

a. What evidence do you have for your belief?

b. Reflection

4. Given what you know and what you have written above, how would you summarize the history of race and Christianity in the United States in a sentence or two?

a. Reflection

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**What's At Stake for Me?**

When learning about a new topic, particularly a difficult one, it is helpful to think about how much your beliefs about it matter to you and why they do. Having strongly held beliefs is not wrong, but it is helpful to think about what you think is at stake for you in what you believe.

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To help you gain a sense of how much the beliefs you wrote above matter to you and why they do (or don't):

1. Rank your commitment to your response for each question on a scale of 1 to 4 (write the numbers after "Reflections". Note: responding with a higher number is not "wrong." You may have very good reasons for the beliefs that you hold. The point is simply to be aware of what beliefs you hold strongly and why you hold them.

1=Encountering solid evidence that challenged what I believe about this question would neither surprise nor concern me.

2=Encountering solid evidence that would challenge what I believe about this question would surprise me a little, but I would not be deeply concerned.

3=Encountering solid evidence that would challenge what I believe about this question would surprise me and would be difficult to assimilate because of what it would mean for how I understand myself, my experiences, my faith, and/or my country.

4=Encountering solid evidence that would challenge what I believe about this question would surprise me and I would be unwilling to assimilate it because of what it would mean for how I understand myself, my experiences, my faith, and/or my country.

2. Write about your response. Think generally about why you responded the way that you did. (If you are stuck, consider these questions: How central are various beliefs to your identity? Does the amount of evidence you have for your belief warrant the strength with which you hold it? Were you surprised by what did not matter as much to you?)