



A Self-Paced Study Guide for
the Presbytery of East Iowa

"Historically, pandemics have forced humans to break with the past and imagine their world anew. This one is no different. It is a portal, a gateway between one world and the next. We can choose to walk through it, dragging the carcasses of our prejudice and hatred, our avarice, our data banks and dead ideas, our dead rivers and smoky skies behind us. Or we can walk through lightly, with little luggage, ready to imagine another world.

And ready to fight for it."

- Arundati Roy

WEEK FOUR - Theme for the Week

Measuring Fog

Readings from *Caste*

Ch. 6 – The Measure of Humanity

Ch. 7 – Through the Fog of Delhi to the Parallels in India and America

Scripture

Galatians 3:28

There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female-- for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.

Genesis 1:27

So God created humans in his own image, in the image of God he created them. . . .

Questions for Reflection

1. How does learning about the lens and language of caste change how you look at American history and society?
2. How does the term "casteism" acknowledge an inherent power inequality in ways that the term "racism" may not?

Action Steps

In her article, "White Privilege: Unpacking the Invisible Backpack," Peggy McIntosh lists [50 questions](#) that are worth examining to get a deeper understanding of the lived experience of caste and race in America. The challenge for this week is to share what you learned after

reflecting on this list with at least one other person, to have a brave and vulnerable conversation about what you are learning and what it means for you as a person of faith.