Timeline of Slavery, Emancipation, Racism, and Revival in America

1500-1865	Slave trade and Slavery – in Africa, New World, and elsewhere
1730-1750	First Great Awakening, Edwards, Wesley, Whitefield revivals
1790-1840	Second Great Awakening, Finney revivals
1840-1860	Abolition political struggles, Underground Railroad, Sojourner Truth, Tubman and Stowe, Dred Scott, <i>Frederick Douglass in Rochester</i>
1861-1865	The Civil War with 3 human heroes (Clara Barton, Frederick Douglass, Abraham Lincoln), 2 fatally flawed tragic figures (John Brown, Robert E. Lee), and 1 villain (John Wilkes Booth)
1865-1877	Reconstruction after assassination of Lincoln, ends with failure of Radical Republicans
1877-1965	Jim Crow era with white supremacy, segregation, KKK, lynching, "separate but equal", Plessy
1916-1970	The First and Second Great Migrations with mass exodus of southern blacks to north, growth of Rochester urban black population
1955-1968	Civil Rights movement with Rosa Parks, marches/sit-ins, MLK, Jr., Kennedy/Johnson, 1964 Riot in Rochester
1968-now	Where are major U.S. political parties with racism? What about the past? Who is calling names? 2 Corinthians 10, Galatians 5-6 Who is/was right/wrong? What moral yardstick can/do we use? Who is able to see it all and judge?

Definitions of liberty, freedom, slavery

Who were/are the authors/accomplices of slavery? World, flesh, devil. "Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom." 2 Corinthians 3:17

Is "pro-choice" also "pro-freedom" or does it speak more to license? "I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live." Deuteronomy 30:19

Was sexual identity assigned on a spectrum? Has the symbol of the rainbow been taken out of its biblical context and coopted for a false agenda? "So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them." Genesis 1:27

Role of the church

Past history, justification of wrong. What about today's teachings on abortion/LGBTQ+?

Need for genuine revival and awakening, not current counterfeit "awokening"

Renewed sensitivity to conviction of sin, repentance, reconciliation, restoration – not increased sensitivity to offense, resentment, condemnation, shaming, blaming, name-calling, divisive comparisons, holier-than-thou attitudes, demands for reparation, pot calling the kettle black

Politics can be worldly and temporal. The work of the Kingdom is divine and eternal. As Christians with dual citizenship we are called to seek His will and His Kingdom while being *in* but not *of* the world.

Need to learn how to recognize, catch, and ride a spiritual wave without falling. Start practicing on smaller ones with individuals, small groups, churches. Need to get out there and stand up in the water with the Word of God to hold us up and guide our discernment as we sense the wind of the Holy Spirit and watch the waves, looking for smaller waves to ride until "the big one" comes.