

## Inclusive-Language Guidelines

A.D. (do not use; use C.E. instead)

African American (n and adj)

American (try to avoid as synonym for U.S.)

American Indian (use Native American)

Asian (use instead of oriental)

Asian American (n and adj)

B.C. (do not use; use B.C.E. instead)

B.C.E. (use in place of B.C.)

black(s) (preferred usage is African American)

C.E. (use in place of A.D.)

Christ's table (use in place of Lord's table)

dark/darkness (do not use when it connotes something evil or bad; replace with gloom, dim, shadows, murkiness. For example, Ps. 23 NRSV reads, "Even though I walk through the darkest valley"; replace with gloomy or shadowy.)

dominion (dominion of God; use in place of kingdom, realm, or reign, except with younger children, for which you might consider world, depending on context)

Eskimo (replace with Inuk, Inuit (pl))

Father (a person in the Trinity; metaphor for God; do not use unless using a balance of male/female metaphors)

fellowman (use inclusive alternatives: others, other people, etc., depending on context)

fellowship (avoid; inclusive alternatives include community, good will, communal feeling)

First World (avoid by being specific; see also Third World)

He (pronoun for God--do not use; repeat noun God, i.e., God saves God's people)

he (avoid when person can be either gender. Use he or she or plural--students put their feet up)

Hebrew Scriptures (use instead of Old Testament)

humankind, humanity, human beings (preferred usage)

Indian (use only for persons from India; otherwise use Native American or specific name of group)

Inuk, Inuit (pl) (use in place of Eskimo)

kingdom, the (kingdom of God; do not use; replace with dominion)

kingdom-language (replace with dominion-language)

kingdom of God (replace with dominion of God)

kingdom of heaven (replace with dominion of heaven)

lay people, laywomen, laymen, lay persons (use laity whenever possible to be inclusive)

Lord (capitalize as name for Jesus as human; Jesus before incarnation or after resurrection should be referred to as Sovereign; change Lord to God and Lord God to Sovereign God)

Lord's Day, the (use Sunday)

Lord's Prayer, the (Matthew 6, Luke 11) (change to the Prayer of Jesus)

Lord's Supper, the (replace with Holy Communion)

Lord's Table, the (replace with Christ's table)

lords (in "Lords of lords")

lordship (do not use)

man (not acceptable as generic; use humankind, humanity, etc.)

Native American (preferred usage; if possible avoid either by naming specific group, i.e., the Pueblo peoples)

New Testament or N.T. (avoid, refer readers to specific passage, i.e., in today's reading from Matthew)

New World (avoid by being specific)

Old Testament or O.T. (replace with Hebrew Scriptures or specific passage)

Old World (avoid by being specific)

oriental (use Asian)

Son of God (replace with Child of God)

Son of man (if referring to Jesus; seek inclusive alternatives, e.g., Human One)

Third World (avoid by being specific)

white (do not use to connote "good"; replace with bright)

Wise Men from the East, the (use Magi)