

We All Bleed The Same Mandisa Hundley/Chris Stevens/Bryan Fowler/Toby McKeehan

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If you want to watch the music video: <https://youtu.be/UEzCQBwQkdA>

Refrain 1: We all bleed the same. We're more beautiful when we come together.
We all bleed the same. So tell me why, tell me why, we're divided

Woke up today, another headline
Another innocent life is taken, in the name of hatred. So hard to take.
And if we think that it's all good then we're mistaken. 'Cause my heart is breaking.
Are you left? Are you right? Pointing fingers, taking sides. When are we gonna realize?

Refrain 1:

Refrain 2: If we're gonna fight, let's fight for each other.

If we're gonna shout, let love be the cry.

We all bleed the same. So tell me why, tell me why, we're divided.

Tell me, who are we to judge someone by the kind of clothes they're wearing
or the color of their skin? Are you black? Are you white?
Aren't we all the same inside? Father, open our eyes to see!

Refrain 1:

Refrain 2:

Only love can drive out all the darkness. What are we fighting for?
We were made to carry one another we were made for more!
Only love can drive out all the darkness. What are we fighting for?
We were made to carry one another we were made for more!

Refrain 1:

Refrain 2:

Let's stand united! Let's stand united!

So Father God, I pray that our families will come together right now and seek Your face. You will forgive our sins. And You will heal our incredible land. In the name of the only Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen

Mandisa: "My heart was broken at the state of our country. I felt like we were all fighting against one another. We just couldn't get along. I realized we had the answer and that's in 2 Chronicles 7:14 which says, "If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sins and will heal their land." We are never going to find healing for our land by yelling and screaming at one another. We're not gonna find it by fighting one another. The only way that we can do that is by coming together, by realizing that we may look different on

the outside, but we all bleed the same on the inside. Let's celebrate our differences, but let's realize that the one thing that unites us is the blood of Jesus."

Do you agree with Mandisa? Why? What helped form your opinion? This song was written in 2017, the year of the Woman's March in Washington DC, the neo-Nazi rally in Charlottesville VA, the MeToo movement, when NFL players knelt during the national anthem to protest police brutality and unequal treatment of black Americans. Do you see any societal changes – good or bad - since then? What are they? Do you feel the same as you did about this in 2017? Why?

What does "we all bleed the same" mean to you? Why?

"Woke up today, another headline, another innocent life is taken, in the name of hatred.
So hard to take. And if we think that it's all good then we're mistaken.
'Cause my heart is breaking. Are you left? Are you right?
Pointing fingers, taking sides. When are we gonna realize?"

1 Corinthians 1:10 *"Now I encourage you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ: Agree with each other and don't be divided into rival groups. Instead, be restored with the same mind and the same purpose."* Common English Bible¹

The terms "left" and "right" have become divisive in our country in recent times. Based on Paul's comments to the Corinthians, division like this has been around for a long time. What seems to be making it worse now? Could these words from Romans 12:9 help to counteract that? *"Love from the center of who you are; don't fake it. Run for dear life from evil; hold on for dear life to good. Be good friends who love deeply; practice playing second fiddle."* (The Message²) How can they help? Can you apply them in your own life? How can you do that?

"Tell me, who are we to judge someone by the kind of clothes they're wearing or the color of their skin? Are you black? Are you white? Aren't we all the same inside? Father, open our eyes to see!"

James 4:12 *“Only He who made the law can rightly judge among us. He alone decides to save us or destroy. So what right do you have to judge or criticize others?”* The Living Bible³

Judging people is easy. Do you agree or disagree? Why? What happens when we judge people? What factors do we use when we judge? What factors do you think God uses in judgement? Why do you think that?

“We all bleed the same. We're more beautiful when we come together. We all bleed the same. So tell me why, tell me why, we're divided.”

Colossians 2:2a *“This is what I have asked of God for you; that you will be encouraged and knit together by strong ties of love, and that you will have the rich experience of knowing Christ with real certainty and clear understanding.”* The Living Bible³

Describe the beauty you see if we're all “knit together by strong ties of love”. Is this something worth working for? Why do you feel that way?

“Only love can drive out all the darkness. What are we fighting for? We were made to carry one another we were made for more!”

Romans 13:9a *“If you love your neighbor as much as you love yourself you will not want to harm or cheat him, or kill or steal from him.”* The Living Bible³

Paul describes some forms of darkness in our world that love can combat. What others can you think of? How does love combat these forms of darkness? How can we “carry one another”? What does the phrase “we were made for more” mean to you? How does that relate to this song?

Mandisa: “I wanna say something to everyone, in a spirit of humility, a spirit of meekness, and a spirit of Christ-like love. There's chaos and calamity in the world, and there's so much hurt and distrust. When police are killed, we need to say something. When black boys are killed, we need to say something. And when we don't say something, we're saying something. We have the spirit of redemption when we speak. At our concert and our churches, I beg of you, let's ask the people that we are accountable to stand in front of to pray with us for healing.”

Amos 5:15 *“Hate evil and love good; remodel your courts into halls of true justice. Perhaps even yet the Lord God of Hosts will have mercy on His people who remain.”* The Living Bible³

Do you believe we can “hate evil and love good” within the same group of people? Can we support our brothers and sisters of color while still condemning the few violent protesters? Can we support the Police that so willingly step up to protect us while still demanding justice when the few act outside the law? Why do you feel that way? What do you think Mandisa means when she says “when we don't say something, we're saying something”? Is it hard to “say something”? What makes it hard? What could make it easier?

“So Father God, I pray that our families will come together right now and seek Your face. You will forgive our sins. And You will heal our incredible land. In the name of the only Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen”

Can you speak these words to God? If you can, please do so now, and as often as you can. If not, can you ask God to help you find a way?

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