Celebrate Black History Month and the release of The Black Church: This Is Our Story, This Is Our Song on PBS by sharing the history of the Black Church with your children. From Slavery to the Civil Rights Movement, to the Black Lives Matter Movement, the Black Church has been a central figure through it all. With these books, you can share songs of the gospel, spirituals that shaped music today, and stories of strong voices in the work of the Black Church. With the important children in your life. Don’t forget to stream The Black Church at pbs.org/blackchurch #BlackChurchPBS

The Beatitudes: From Slavery to Civil Rights << Carole Boston Weatherford (Ages 8-12)
Since the earliest days of slavery, African Americans have called on their religious faith in the struggle against oppression. In this book the Beatitudes -- from Jesus' famous Sermon on the Mount -- form the backdrop for Carole Boston Weatherford’s powerful free-verse poem that traces the African American journey from slavery to civil rights.

Early Sunday Morning << Denene Millner (Ages 4-8)
Sundays are June’s favorite days because she gets to spend it with Mommy, Daddy, and her brother, Troy. Next Sunday is more special than most, because she will be leading the youth choir in front of her entire church. As her special moment approaches, June leans on the support of her whole community to conquer her fear of singing in front of the congregation.

By and By: Charles Albert Tindley, the Father of Gospel Music << Carole Boston Weatherford (Ages 4-8)
Charles Tindley was born free, but his childhood was far from easy: with working in the fields without an opportunity to go to school. But the spirituals he heard as he worked made him long to know how to read the Gospel. Charles raised himself to become a founding father of American gospel music whose hymn was the basis for the Civil Rights anthem “We Shall Overcome.”

Bread for Words: A Frederick Douglass Story << Shana Keller (Ages 6-9)
This book explores Frederick Douglass’s experiences as a child. And as a young child, there were questions, such as Why am I a slave? Answers to those questions might have eluded him but Douglass did know for certain that learning to read and to write would be the first step in his quest for freedom and his fight for equality.

The World is Awake << Linsey Davis (Ages 4-8)
This book is akin to a lyrical walk through a day filled with love as seen through the magnificent world of our Creator. Everyday sights inspire children to be thankful for all of God’s blessings that surround them. From blooming flowers in the backyard to the roaring animals at the zoo ... The World is Awake!

Sing A Song: How Lift Every Voice and Sing Inspired Generations << Kelly Starling Lyons (Ages 5-8)
Lyons tells the story of a 120 year old history of the song through generations that have passed on. This song has provided strength through many trials and tribulations, from the Civil Rights Movement, Jim Crow, and the Great Migration.

Civil Rights Then and Now: A Timeline of the Fight for Equality in America << Kristina Brooke Daniele (Ages 8-12)
Take a crash course in social justice issues in the US. This book explores topics of racism, discrimination, and prejudice.

Have I Ever Told You Black Lives Matter << Shani King (Ages 9-12)
Black lives matter. That message would be self-evident in a just world, but in this world and this America, all children need to hear it again and again, and not just to hear it but to feel and know it.

When Marian Sang << Pam Muñoz Ryan (Ages 8-12)
This biography explores the life of one of our nation’s most important singers Marian Anderson, showing her as a role model for courage and grace throughout the obstacles in following your dreams. Watch AMERICAN EXPERIENCE Marian Anderson: Music Icon on PBS.

God’s Dream << Desmond Tutu (Ages 3-5)
Desmond Tutu has a vision of God’s dream, which he shares here with the youngest of listeners. This book introduces forgiveness and the brother and sisterhood of us all on God's earth.

RESPECT: Aretha Franklin, the Queen of Soul << Carole Boston Weatherford (Ages 4-8)
Aretha Franklin was born to sing. The daughter of a pastor and a gospel singer, her musical talent was clear from her earliest days in her father’s Detroit church where her soaring voice spanned more than three octaves.