Prompts for breakout sessions:

1) Who you are and where you are coming from (1 min per person)

2) Discuss (in order) the following two passages:
   a. “Plunder in the past made plunder in the present efficient. The banks of America understood this. In 2005, Wells Fargo promoted a series of Wealth Building Strategies seminars. Dubbing itself “the nation’s leading originator of home loans to ethnic minority customers,” the bank enrolled black public figures in an ostensible effort to educate blacks on building “generational wealth.” But the “wealth building” seminars were a front for wealth theft. In 2010, the Justice Department filed a discrimination suit against Wells Fargo alleging that the bank had shunted blacks into predatory loans regardless of their creditworthiness. This was not magic or coincidence or misfortune. It was racism reifying itself. According to The New York Times, affidavits found loan officers referring to their black customers as “mud people” and to their subprime products as “ghetto loans.” “ (Third paragraph from end) (5-10 min)
   b. “Here we find the roots of American wealth and democracy— in the for-profit destruction of the most important asset available to any people, the family. The destruction was not incidental to America’s rise; it facilitated that rise. By erecting a slave society, America created the economic foundation for its great experiment in democracy.” (Last paragraph of Section IV) (5-10 min)

3) Are there any points in the history Coates is telling that you found confusing or surprising or want to understand better? (5-10 minutes)

4) Coates gives us an argument for reparations in the most straightforward political, economic and legal sense. Can we take this as a metaphor for what reparations could/should look like in the physical sciences? (10 minutes)