



Everyone has an opinion about race relations, and most are willing to share it. Why shouldn't followers of Jesus join the conversation? God's Word, Jesus' example, the Spirit's leading—we have a lot to bring to the table. This series is intended to help Christians think, live, and speak a better word when the talk is about race.

**These questions are designed to extend the impact of the weekend message. Use them to go deeper in your personal study time, with your family and/or with a group.**

**1** Rick mentioned that the subject of race is on many “let’s not talk about that” lists? Why is this? What makes the topic of race such a difficult conversation to have for so many? Why has it been hard at times for you?

**2** Why is the Christian perspective on the topic of race needed? How has that perspective been misrepresented by some? And how have Christians themselves misrepresented what God says about race?

**3** One core value all Christians should affirm is the **we all bear the image of God. Read Genesis 1:27 & 2:7.** What do you think it means to be made in the image of God? What are some of the current issues in the world that need to be addressed beginning with this understanding?

**4** The scriptures affirm in John 3:16 and many other places that **God loves the whole world.** This love is affirmed in both testaments. **Read Genesis 12:1-3, Psalm 117, & Isaiah 49:6.** Why did Israel fail to realize and affirm God’s love for all peoples? How do we see this love lived out in the life of Jesus?

**5** **Read Mark 12:28-34.** Jesus intentionally tied the two great commandments together, implying that **we cannot love God if we do not love our neighbor.**

What causes religion to want to separate these two commands? And why did Jesus introduce the subject of race when defining “neighbor”? **See Luke 10:25-38.**

**6** John’s vision shows that **God values and redeems all ethnicities. Read Revelation 5:9-10 and 7:9-10.**

In heaven the beautiful uniqueness of every ethnicity will be celebrated. What are the implications for the church today, and what might that look like?

**7** Close by praying for enlightenment during this series. Ask God to give each one a revelation of how we can more fully embrace and embody His love.

