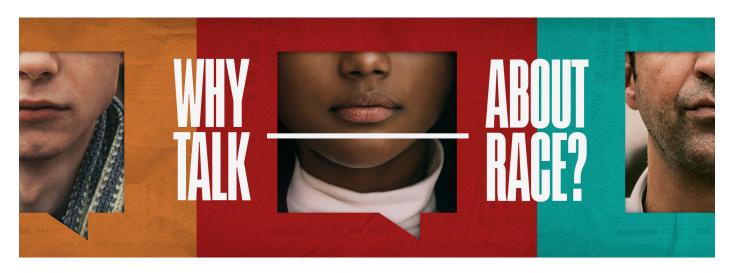
DISCUSSION Week 3 thehills.org
QUESTIONS



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 What has been your biggest takeaway or "aha" moment in this series so far? Has the Lord revealed anything to you that He wants you to deal with?
- **2 Read John 17:20-24.** Why was unity such a priority in the prayer of Jesus? What does the visible unity of the body of Christ say to the world about who Jesus is? **Unity preaches!** Have you seen the impact of that kind of unity in your experience as a Christian?
- 3 Rick said "Racial unity is not the mission, but racial unity is critical to the mission." How do you interpret that statement? Agree or disagree?
- 4 God chose the church in Antioch to be the launching pad for world missions. Their unity was their witness. Read Acts 11:19-30 and 13:1-3. How did this church display unity locally? How did it display unity globally? What values and practices of this church need to be embraced by every church?
- 5 Unity is a process. It's both a decision and a journey. Read Galatians 2:11-14. What do you think Peter was afraid of? On what basis did Paul confront him? What reasons today do Christians use for justifying bigotry or segregation? What can we learn from Paul's example about how to deal with it?

- 6 Unity in the body of Christ has a basis. We are all infected with sin, and we all need to be cured by the blood of Jesus. Read 2 Corinthians 5:14-21. How does the gospel change the way we look at everyone?
- 7 Read Galatians 3:26-28. Baptism preaches unity! In what way is baptism a rebuke of racism? Reflect on your own baptism. How has your own understanding of and appreciation for baptism grown since then?
- **8** Close your time together praying that our church's growth in unity will bring many who are far from God into a relationship with His Son Jesus Christ.

