



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 the most helpful thing you have heard in this series to date? What new thought on this subject has the Lord revealed to you?
- 2 Our guest speaker this week was one of our church planters in Harlem—Kenny Hart. He said, "People say, 'Race is real but it does not matter.' In reality, race is not real but it does matter." What did he mean by that? Do you agree or disagree?
- 3 Kenny also noted that we often feel more connected to people who don't believe in the cross because of their skin color that we do with fellow believers of a different race. Why is that? How does our culture disciple us in division?
- 4 **Read Acts 2:1-13.** In his sermon Kenny argues that Pentecost is the foundation for unity in the church. What do you see in this text that supports that idea?
- 5 The reality is that the unity that we need cannot be achieved in our own strength. We need the power of the Holy Spirit. How does the Spirit of God help us overcome the things that divide us?
- 6 **Read 1 Corinthians 9:20-22.** Contextualization means giving people the gospel in a form, manner, or language they can understand or feel. How does the Spirit help us do this? How has the Holy Spirit helped you speak in a "new language" to share the message of Jesus?
- 7 Kenny said, "We all have a mission field because we all have a sphere of influence." What is your particular mission field? Share with your group where you think the Spirit wants to use you.
- 8 Much of the New Testament deals with the first churches wrestling with the challenges created by ethnic diversity—circumcision, observing special days, meat offered to idols, etc. What do you think will be some of the challenges we will face at The Hills as we become more ethnically diverse? What fruit of the Spirit will we need to help us navigate those challenges?
- 9 This week our prayer is that we will be a Spirit-filled people. Take some time to pray that our church will follow the leading of the Holy Spirit to be the church that God wants.

