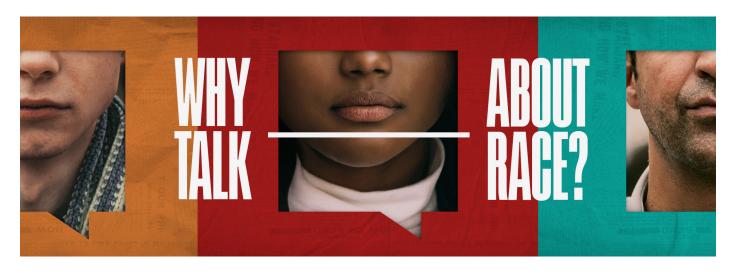
DISCUSSION Week 6 the hills.org



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 As you think about The Hills becoming an intentionally more multi-ethnic church, what makes you the most nervous? What makes you the most excited?
- **2** What are some of the ways that we see the Holy Spirit in the book of Acts moving the church in the direction of its multi-ethnic destiny?
- 3 Rick mentioned three things we can do to, beginning with **listening to instead of just hearing about.** What are ways in which our culture tries to get us to embrace false narratives about one another? **Read James 1:19.** What are the hard requirements of being a good listener? Share a time when really listening to another person's story changed your perspective.
- 4 Becoming a multi-ethnic church will demand getting comfortable being uncomfortable. Rick mentioned three areas where this will be especially necessary: accepting inter-racial relationships, embracing diverse worship styles, and submitting to diversity in leadership. Take some time in your group to talk about all three challenges. What will be hard, what can we do to make it work, and how does the gospel address our response to each one?

- 5 Combatting racism will mean **speaking up when** it is easier to shut up. Give some examples of that in the Bible. What are ways we can speak up today as individual Christians and as a church? Share a time when you or someone you know "spoke up."
- **6** Rick said "The gospel is the hope of the world." Agree or disagree? Why?
- **7** What has been the most important thing God has taught you in this series?
- **8** Close by praying that The Hills will truly embrace God's multi-ethnic dream for the church. Ask the Holy Spirit to lead us into that future.

