



KICKING IT OFF

Do you remember the first time you realized people were different colors

or races? What happened?

BIG IDEA

Racism is rooted in sin and we are called to do justice, love mercy and walk humbly with our God.

KEY SCRIPTURES

Micah 6:8 *"He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God."*

Genesis 4:7 *"If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must rule over it."*

Psalms 33:5 *"The Lord loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of his unfailing love."*

Psalms 103:6 *"The Lord works righteousness and justice for all the oppressed."*

Matthew 5:7 *"Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy."*

Luke 6:36 *"Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful."*

Isaiah 66:2 *"These are the ones I look on with favor: those who are humble and contrite in spirit, and who tremble at my word."*

James 4:10 *"Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up."*

DISCUSSION

1. Read Micah 6:8 and Genesis 4:7. These passages highlight two polar opposites: what God wants most from us in order for us to draw near to Him, and the thing that most separates us from Him. Discuss how these two things play out with racism.

2. Read Psalm 33:5 and Psalm 103:6. What do these verses tell you about God's heart when it comes to justice?
3. What do you think God's response is to injustice?
4. How do you think God expects his children to respond to injustice?
5. What is the greatest example of racism you've ever personally witnessed?
6. Were you able to take action against that injustice? If so, what did you do and how did it feel?
7. Read Matthew 5:7 and Luke 6:36. Share an experience that helped you understand something from the perspective of another race.
8. Read Isaiah 66:2 and James 4:10. How does humility prevent racism?
9. What are some prejudices (racial or otherwise) you've recognized in yourself? What will you do with them?
10. Racism isn't just what we do sometimes it's what we don't do. Are you withholding from people who are different from you? What would it look like to do the opposite?

WRAPPING IT UP

Discuss what commitments you're willing to do as a group to learn more about racism and what you can do bridge the gap of racial injustice.

MEMORY VERSE

"He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God." **Micah 6:8**

PRAYER FOCUS

Pray that we will be more aware of our own tendencies toward racism, and that we will not only rid it from our lives, but seek to bring racial equality to our community and our world.

