



These Digging Deeper questions can be used the week following the Sunday message. You can use these questions for personal growth and development, or as a guide for your family or Connect Group discussions.

## Message Recap:

Read Romans 12:1-2, 21

Everything is broken. Everything needs to be redeemed! Sin and redemption are infinitely deep in opposite directions. If everything is broken, *our thinking* is too – until we love thinking from the mind of Christ! Racism can be described as the conscious and unconscious ideas, social systems, and structures that legitimize inequality based on race, these ideas stem from the assumption that dark skin is bad and light skin is good. Our culture and history are saturated with “second-hand smoke” from these racist ideas and we are reeling from the wound. Reject living your way in the world – your life is Christ. Look carefully beneath the surface for this world's patterns. We're all naturally a part of “broken” patterns until we're supernaturally not. Think like heaven; be *eternally* different! Let the Holy Spirit clear the air between your ears.

## Pray

Lord, thank you for loving us. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to start this conversation on racism. We pray that you would open our eyes to the depth of the brokenness in the world and that we could recognize that you are the only path to redemption. Finally, we pray that we would allow you to use us to create the change that we want to see in the world.

## Getting Started

- What is the craziest thing you have done to avoid an awkward conversation?
- Tell a story of how you benefited from an awkward conversation you had been avoiding.

## Digging Deeper

1. Give examples of how racist ideas, despite our desire to distance ourselves from them, still have the ability to influence how we think today?
2. Read 2 Corinthians 2:12. Compare and contrast the spirit of the world with the Spirit who is from God. Use Scripture to defend your definitions. (Places to look might include the books of Titus, John, 1 John, Romans, 2 Corinthians)
3. Read Matthew 8:5-13 and discuss what this shows us about how Jesus thought about race.
4. Read Corinthians 2:16. Describe what it means to have the mind of Christ.
5. Why do we underestimate God's ability to redeem and bring together? How does this influence our willingness to start real conversation about race?
6. Explain how you can let go of old patterns and learn how to love thinking from the mind of Christ. How will that change your environment?

## Living Jesus

Unless we consciously choose to think from the mind of Christ, we will unconsciously choose to think like the world. That doesn't work when you are living Jesus. Ask God to show you where you are not living or loving with the mind of Christ. Then start changing your thinking.

## Your Story

Are you living like the evil of the world has more power than the love of God? How are you going to take captive every thought and align it to the mind of Christ? What kind of effect will this have on your family? Your community? Start living your story differently so you can be the love of Jesus in a broken world.