

# Jesus is the Good of God

Week of September 3, 2017

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 Micah 6:8

Changing the conversation of racism is not passive. We must be active, stepping ac from the rhetoric and listening to one another with open hearts. Racism is personal. And it's about relationship; with one another and most of all with Jesus. God never intended us to be alone or lost. But he did show us what is good. Jesus is that good. The reason he appeared was to destroy the devil's work as the atoning sacrifice for all the world. Through Jesus we can become the hope of God to the world. We are the revelation of Jesus in this broken world. If this is true for you, if you know Christ, then you can't sit on the sidelines of a Hell-bound world! We are called to act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with our God. If we do those things, there is no room for judging others. Are you going to sit in your own narrative, or are you going to be the change the world needs to see? Will you be silent in the face of sin, or will you mist to live against racism?

# Pray

Jesus, forgive me for my sins. For all of my sins, including the ones that perpetuate racism. Help me know how to speak out against sin. Help me understand how to stand against racism. Help me change so I can start seeing the world through your eyes and with your heart. Help me do justice, love mercy and walk humbly with you.

### **Getting Started**

- Have you ever made a snap judgement about someone only to be proven very wrong? How did that make you feel?
- How has this series on racism impacted how you think and act?

# **Digging Deeper**

- 1. What is some of the rhetoric or your personal narrative about racism that God is convicting you about?
- 2. Why do you think that addressing racism is about personal accountability and relationship?
- 3. Read Micah 6:8. Explain how God reveals his will and requires a response from us. What kind of response is required from us?
- 4. Jesus came to destroy the devil's work. In what ways have you not let Jesus do this work in you?
- 5. If you know Christ, you can't sit on the sidelines of a Hell-bound world. God says we must act justly. What does that mean? How will you respond? How does 1 John 3:10 support that?
- 6. God's call is not merely to "be" merciful but to *love* mercy. What does that mean?
- 7. Read Romans 12:2-3. How do these verses support what God said in Micah 6:8?

# **Living Jesus**

When you get your heart right with Jesus, everything else follows. How could anyone look at Jesus, who put such value in unexpected people, think that he would condone anything except loving and serving one another? The devil wants you to look at the world around you. Stop looking at other people or to your pain, and instead look at Jesus alone.

# Your Story

Are you letting go of your old narratives? Instead of deciding that you are the center of righteousness or goodness, look to Jesus. Reason from Scripture in humility instead of from a party or a side or your own narrative. Commit to living from the heart of Jesus using the Word of God as your only guide for what is right. How will you commit to live against racism?