## TALK IT OVER

## **Key Scriptures**

The LORD God has told us what is right and what he demands: "See that justice is done, let mercy be your first concern, and humbly obey your God." Micah 6:8 CEV

If one part suffers, every part suffers with it ... 1 Corinthians 12:26 NIV

Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. Romans 12:15 NIV

"If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land."

2 Chronicles 7:14 NIV

"My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ... Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me."

John 17:20-21, 23 NIV

Hatred stirs up conflict, but love covers over all wrongs. Proverbs 10:12 NIV

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Discuss these questions with someone—maybe a family member, friend, or member of your LifeGroup. Use a communication method that works best for your situation.

Start talking. Find a conversation starter for your group.

 What's something about the culture you grew up in that might be surprising to others?

Start thinking. Ask a question to get your group thinking.

- Cultural humility is the understanding that our experiences and perspectives aren't the same as everyone else's. Do you think humility comes naturally to you? Why or why not?
- How often do you listen to perspectives different from your own? How might doing so more regularly challenge or change your ways of thinking?
- How can you make a point to regularly pray for justice, compassion, restoration, unity, and many other needs we have that only God can help us meet?

Start sharing. Choose a question to create openness.

- What are some ways you can push back against racism by loving boldly and bravely this week?
- What perspectives might be missing from our conversation today? Who would you like to hear from?

Start praying. Be bold and pray with power.

Father, thank You for creating each of us in Your image. Help us to see the dignity and worth You've bestowed on all of us and work to defend that worth when it is threatened by other people. Let us love all Your children bravely and unconditionally. In Jesus' name, amen.

Start doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week.

- Have a conversation with someone whose story and background is different than your own, even if what they have to say might make you uncomfortable.
- Are you interested in serving your community? Check out our local partners at: <u>www.life.church/localmissions</u>
- Looking for more resources? Start here: www.go2.lc/ stopracism