

CONVERSATION STARTERS

what to do + discuss

In moments of crisis and conflict, we often wonder, *What can I do* and *How do we talk about this*? We wanted to give you some tools to help you talk through the recent incidents of racial injustice in our country.

WHAT CAN I DO?

Here are three things you can do:

- ▶ Talk to someone who looks different than you. Ask questions. Be open and willing to listen.
- ▶ Learn about race and racism. Explore our suggested resources. Go somewhere where you are a minority. Discuss what you're learning with others.
- ▶ Support organizations that are on the front lines of the fight for racial justice.

How Do We Talk About This?

With Our Children

- ▶ How would you describe the recent incidents of violence and anger toward people of color in our country?
- ▶ Why do you think this is happening?
- ▶ Who do you know that has a different skin color than you?
- ▶ What can you do to be a good friend to them?
- ▶ How else can you help make a difference?

With Our Small Groups

- ▶ Growing up, did you have friendships with people of different races? Was anything challenging about those friendships? If so, what?
- ▶ On a scale of 1-10, how comfortable are you engaging in conversations about race and racism?
- ▶ What emotions did you feel as you witnessed recent examples of racial injustice in our nation, state, and city?

- ▶ Do those emotions feel healthy or unhealthy? For you personally, what is the difference between healthy and unhealthy emotions?
- ▶ Is there a right way for us to respond as followers of Jesus? How do we respond as individuals? As a group?

- ▶ Read this together:

For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." But if you bite and devour one another, watch out that you are not consumed by one another.

Galatians 5:13-15 (ESV)

- ▶ How does what the apostle Paul said to the Galatians sit with you right now?
- ▶ Pray together as a group.