

**axis**



**A CONVERSATION KIT ON**

**RACISM**

# RACISM

## 1 Racism and Power

What does it mean to racist?

Racism at its core is really about **power**. There are many different kinds of power... **military power**, **cultural power**, **technological power**, and **political power**.

Most often in the Bible, "Justice" or "Misphat" (טִפְשָׁח) refers to **restorative justice**. It means going a step further, actually seeking out **vulnerable people** who are being taking advantage of and helping them.

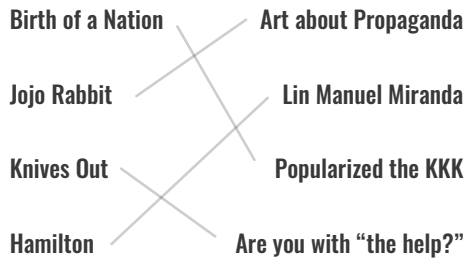
- The Bible Project

Why do you think the oppressed often become oppressors?

## 2 Racism and Media

All media can influence the way we see the world, but art is often designed to expand **our worldview**; propaganda is designed to shrink it. George Lucas once said "I've always tried to be aware of what I say in my films, because all of us who make motion pictures are **teachers** -- teachers with **very loud voices**."

Draw a line between each related item:



What was a piece of media that challenged your worldview?

## 3 Woke Jesus

Define cancel culture and write your thoughts:

The trend of cancel culture involves digging into someone's past, often someone in the public eye, finding the places where they've done or said something offensive, and then encouraging as many people as possible to blacklist them and take away future opportunities because of what they did.

Jonah was a racist, a hyper-nationalist. He did not want to go to **Nineveh** because he knew God would have mercy on his enemies. He did not want their **repentance**; he wanted their doom.

- John Piper

Define "woke" and write your thoughts:

Most people would disagree on what it truly means to be woke, but wokeness is most commonly defined as being "awake" to social injustice and speaking against it.

## 4 The Church

**Easter** is a festival of human solidarity, because it celebrates the fulfillment of the Good News! The Good News borne by **our risen Messiah**, who chose not one race, who chose not one country, who chose not one language, who chose not one tribe, who chose **all of humankind!**

- Nelson Mandela When has the Church stood against racism? When has it not?

### Corporate Confession:

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.