

## What is RACISM?

Acts 17:26

### TALKING POINTS for KIDS

<sup>26</sup>And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, <sup>27</sup>that they should seek God, and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us.

1. What does this verse say about where all people came from?
2. What does the rest of Acts 17:26-27 say about the people God made and the places he determined they would live?
3. Racism is the idea that one race of people (a group that looks mostly the same) is either better or worse than other races of people. How does this idea go against what the Bible tells us about humans?
4. Science tells us that we are actually all the same race—the human race, and that scientists can't tell what race we are by looking at our DNA. In fact, a person of one race can have more DNA in common with a person of another race than a person of the same race.
5. It's important for us to talk about race (and what the Bible says about it) because in America, at the same time our country was being formed, people began to tell the story that one race was better than another, that white people were better than people of color. I know that seems like a silly story, but it became really important. *Why would they do such a thing?* They thought more about what they wanted than what was good for others. They wanted land. They wanted people to work for them cheaply. They wanted to keep their power and control others. They needed a reason to feel like they were doing the right thing, so they created the story that the races are different. As a result, people of color didn't have the same opportunities as white people. Racism was completely legal! Life became very, very difficult for people of color in our country.
6. I wish I could tell you that it's better today, but there are still many ways that races are not treated equally and don't have the same opportunities. It takes a long time to change these things, *so that's why we're talking about this*—so we can pray and work to make things better for all of us.

For a coloring page for Acts 17:26 see next page.

