

## Crossing the Racial Divide

Neighbors – Part 2

*“...Love your neighbor as you love yourself. There are no commands more important than these.”*

Mark 12:31 (NCV)

*“But if you favor some people over others, you are committing a sin...”*

James 2:9 (NLT)

## How to Bridge the Racial Gap

(John 4:1-42)

### 1) Be intentional about making connections.

*“So he (Jesus) left Judea and returned to Galilee. He had to go through Samaria on the way.”* vs. 3-4 (NLT)

### 2) Look for common ground.

*“...he came to the Samaritan village of Sychar, near the field that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. Jacob’s well was there; and Jesus, tired from the long walk, sat wearily beside the well...”* vs. 5-6 (NLT)

*“Jesus said to her, ‘Please give me a drink.’ ...The woman was surprised, for Jews refuse to have anything to do with Samaritans.”* vs. 7-9 (NLT)

### 3) Be open to honest spiritual conversations.

*“Jesus replied, ‘If you only knew the gift God has for you and who you are speaking to, you would ask me, and I would give you living water.’”* vs. 10 (NLT)

### 4) Wait expectantly for God to work.

*“You know the saying, ‘Four months between planting and harvest.’ But I say, wake up and look around. The fields are already ripe for harvest.”* vs. 35 (NLT)

*“When they came out to see him, they begged him to stay in their village. So he stayed for two days, long enough for many more to hear his message and believe.”* vs. 40-41 (NLT)

*“In this new life, it doesn’t matter if you are a Jew or a Gentile, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbaric, uncivilized, slave, or free. Christ is all that matters, and he lives in all of us.”*

Colossians 3:11 (NLT)