

Proxe Script

Intro. I'm _____. What's your name? I'm with a group called InterVarsity, and we're having conversations about race, ethnicity, and faith. Do you have a few minutes to vote on our campaign?

1. Panel ONE: Colorblindness. "Colorblindness" is the idea that we should ignore race and ethnicity. Some people think colorblindness helps solve the problem of racism. Others don't.

- What do you think about colorblindness?
- Why did you choose this one?

Some people think that by acknowledging race or ethnicity we create more division. Others think that when we ignore ethnicity, we ignore part of our stories. We are InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, and we believe that God sees all of who we are, including our ethnicity. These next two panels invite people to think about their own ethnic identity journey, both the positive and negative.

- May I ask, what is your ethnic background?

2. Panel TWO: Beauty. We all have an ethnic background. Let's take a minute and practice taking off the blindfold and looking at ourselves and our ethnicity. When you look at your ethnic journey and family story, what is one beautiful thing you appreciate about your ethnic story?

– Thanks for sharing. "For me..."

3. Panel THREE: Brokenness. Many of us also experience brokenness in our ethnic stories.

- What has been painful about your ethnic story?
– I appreciate you sharing. "For me..."
- What gives you hope in the midst of that brokenness and pain?
– Thanks for sharing that. For me, Jesus has had a big impact on how I view my ethnic background.
- [Share your story] Before ____, but Jesus ____ and now ____.
Like I said, we're a group called InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, and we want to look at how our spirituality shapes our ethnic journeys, and what Jesus has to teach us about this.

- Do you have a spiritual background?
– Thank you for sharing. For me, as a Christian, it's been really eye-opening to look at the life of Jesus to learn more about how God cares about our full identities. This next panel is a story where Jesus crosses major cultural barriers to show love to a woman from an alienated community. I'll summarize the story for you...

4. Panel FOUR: Story of Jesus in John 4.

- Jews and Samaritans had a bitter history. They avoided each other whenever possible.
- He actually brought his 12 disciples to Samaria **in order** to cross barriers and teach his disciples to learn from this woman.
- Jesus initiates the conversation with her, and she is shocked!
- Jesus sees the 5 scars on her heart from previous relationships [she had been married 5 times previously], and he offers her healing through his "living water."
- This interaction not only heals the divide between the two of them, but also brings healing to the scars on her heart.
- Her new hope and joy overflow to her town, and they all come out to meet Jesus. A movement of healing begins.

5. Share the Gospel. Jesus wants to amplify the beauty and heal the brokenness in each of our ethnic stories. Receiving such healing moves us into reconciling communities. Can I share with you how Jesus brings healing to each of our ethnic stories?

- Use the 4 circles to share Gospel
- Do you want this healing?
- Would you like to begin a relationship with Jesus today?

6. Invite them to respond. Would you be interested in:

- Receiving prayer for healing from painful experiences in your story?
- Continuing a conversation about what God has to say about race and ethnicity?

Please fill out the connection card. Please consider joining with us in this movement of healing. We would like to let you know when we are meeting for deeper conversations about faith on campus.

Circle One: Beauty

1. We are all created in the image of God. He made us with purpose, dignity and beauty.
2. We are designed to live in peace with one another, enjoying the unique characteristics of every people and learning from one another.
3. In a world designed for good, difference between people groups isn't something to fear—it's something to celebrate!

Circle Two: Brokenness

1. There is beauty in each of us, but there is also brokenness.
2. Brokenness comes from us telling God that we can do better without him. We selfishly put ourselves at the center of the story, instead of God being at the center.
3. As a result, the brokenness we experience is not just around us, it wells up within us as well.
4. (Point to Insta-GIG or Panel 4) This is her story. She is stuck in Circle 2. She has been wounded inside by her 5 failed marriages, and she is also wounded externally by the walls that divide her from others.

Circle Four: Restoration

1. God doesn't stop here. He invites us further.
2. Because the woman shares her healing with her neighbors, the whole town is transformed.
3. Just like this woman crosses her barriers to bring the news of Jesus back to her town, we are also invited by Jesus to reach out to others that have been affected by brokenness.
4. This movement of restoration gains momentum as we share what we have experienced from God with others.
5. Where is Jesus inviting you to share your story?

Circle Three: Redemption

1. Jesus takes the initiative. God looks at our world and steps into our brokenness, crossing all barriers, just like he did with this woman.
2. Jesus solves the problem of our selfishness. He offers us a different life because he defeated death by dying on the cross in our place.
3. Jesus is the only one able to cross the greatest barrier—the one between us and God. We cannot cross it; only God can cross it.
4. By dying for us, and giving us new life, Jesus amplifies the beauty and heals the brokenness inside us and around us.
5. Do you want Jesus to cross these barriers into your life?