

# A BETTER WORLD : MAP

Read this "map" familiarize yourself with the mural. Give yourself 10-15 min.

## The "Circle 4 World"

The images on the left represent ways the people of God are sent out to heal, bless, restore, and invite others into God's story.

## Luke 4/ Isaiah 61

Jesus' reading of Isaiah 61 in Luke 4:18-21 is quoted on the sides of the mural.

## The "Circle 2 World"

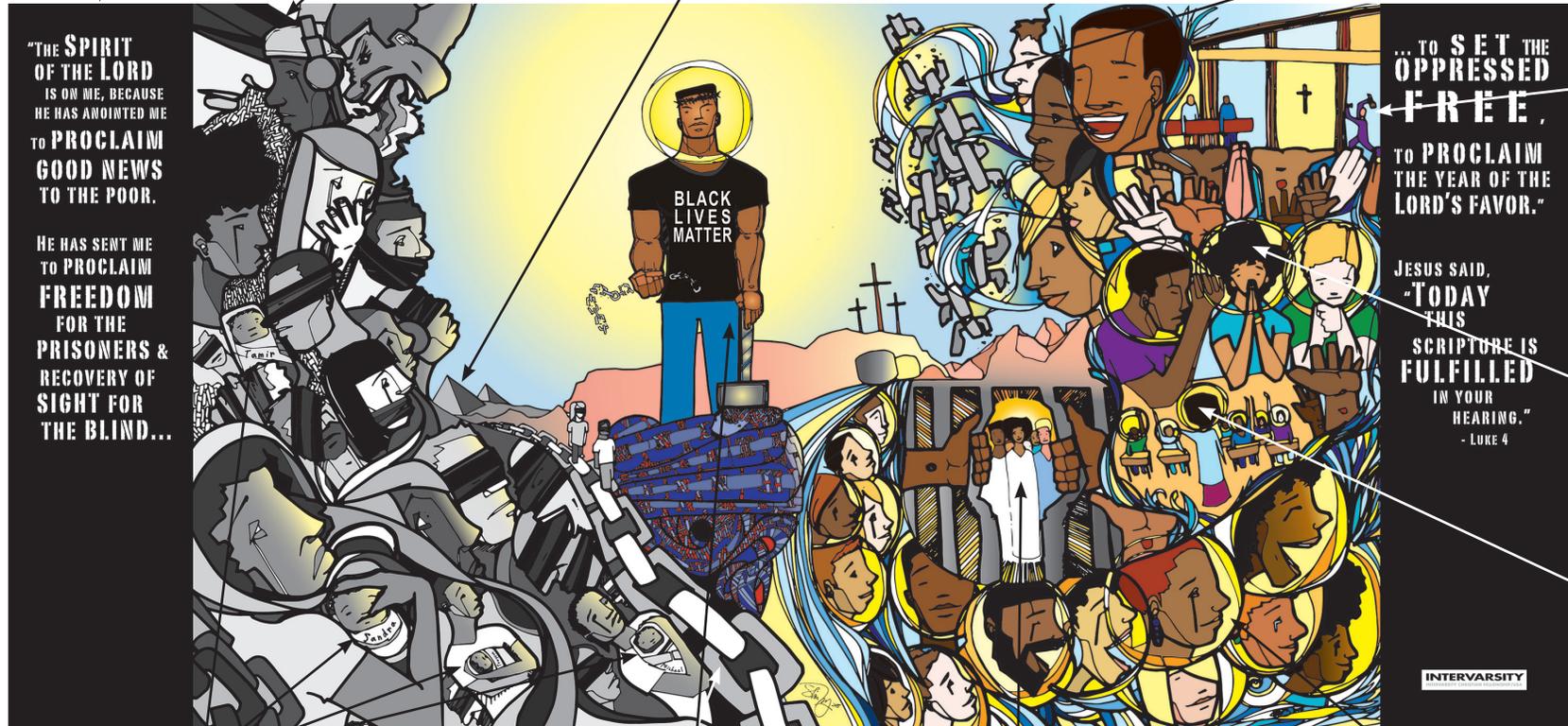
The left side of the mural depicts a multiethnic group of faces showing mourning, despair, numbness, anger, and apathy. Some are blindfolded, others gagged, others not listening. Chains are woven throughout.

## The Pyramids

Harking back to the Exodus story, the Pyramids represent a time of slavery and oppression for Jesus' people. \*The Exodus story of freedom and deliverance is a powerful image for the black church.

## Chains Being Broken

As Jesus followers speak the story of God and speak out against injustice, chains of sin and oppression are being broken.



## A Church Being Rebuilt

Black churches that were burnt or destroyed are being rebuilt. Also, the larger church is being built upon the foundational work of justice, evangelism, prayer, and mission.

## People in Prayer

A multiethnic group of Jesus followers are praying for His kingdom to be built. Hands of prayer surround and support His work.

## A Classroom

A group of children are being taught in a vibrant classroom.

## About the Babies

The babies have the names Sandra, Michael, Trayvon, and Tamir written on their swaddling cloths.

## Jesus the Deliverer ("Circle 3")

A crucified & resurrected Jesus is breaking a chain with his right hand and has his other hand resting on a hammer crushing a serpent made of chains (representing evil, injustice, broken systems, and sin).

*Genesis 3:15 - "And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head..."*

## Freedom for the Prisoners

Stigmata hands are pulling apart prison bars and releasing captives (black and non-black) into freedom.

## The Reconciled People of God

A multiethnic black-led movement of Jesus followers emerge from the empty tomb to declare the good news of Jesus and pursue his kingdom of justice & righteousness. Their halos mark the presence of the Holy Spirit, and they are breathing out water symbolizing the Living Water of Jesus.

# A BETTER WORLD : INSTRUCTIONS

1

## GAIN THEIR ATTENTION

"Come & talk about where you find hope amidst the racial tension in America today."

2

## INTRODUCE YOURSELF (ASK THEIR NAME), STATE YOUR PURPOSE, AND ASK PERMISSION.

"We're with InterVarsity Christian Fellowship and we want to discuss hope and how God might be at work amidst the racial tension in America today."

3

## ASK HOW THEY'VE BEEN AFFECTED BY RACIAL INJUSTICE:

<p>How are you responding to RACIAL PAIN?</p> <p>Confused</p> <p>Exhausted</p> <p>Despairing</p>	<p>How are you responding to RACIAL PAIN?</p> <p>Hopeful</p> <p>Frustrated</p> <p>Grieving / Sad</p>
<p>Angry</p> <p>Fear</p> <p>Other</p>	

"There has been a lot of news lately about the pain the black community has been encountering: injustice, brutality, and even death. **Which boxes best describe how this has affected you?**"

[I put my sticker on box...]

"Why did you place your stickers where you did?"

"What gives you hope for change amidst the pain expressed by many in the black community?"



4

## TELL THE STORY OF LUKE 4 & MOVE TO MURAL

We are InterVarsity Christian Fellowship. We believe that Jesus offers hope in the midst of racial injustice and pain. Come look at the art over here.

This mural depicts Jesus speaking hope to his people during a time of incredible racial brokenness and oppression. The words on the sides are part of his opening sermon to describe his priorities. (Read them outloud.)

Jesus is claiming to be the promised deliverer that would set the Israelites free. He hates the injustice that he saw his people suffer (slavery, death, injustice, violence) and he hates these very things that Black Americans have had to endure and continue to endure today. He speaks prophetically to both the oppressor and the oppressed.

5

## ASK THEM ABOUT WHAT THEY THINK ABOUT JESUS

Pick 1-2 of the questions below:

1. "How does this compare with the image of Jesus you've perceived or heard of?"
2. "What do you like about this view of Jesus?"
3. "If these words were true, what do you think Jesus is offering us today?"
4. "How does this image of Jesus speak hope to our campus?"

6

## CONNECT TO GOSPEL

"Black Lives Matter stands against the brutality, injustice, and violence that Black Americans face every day. We all long for justice, healing, reform, & a world without brokenness. Black Lives Matter is crying out for that better world."

"These injustices are an invitation to face ourselves, our small hearts, our anger, our desire for more. In Jesus' quote, he calls out the brokenness with the system and world. He invites both the perpetrator and the victim to get right with him. [See next page.]"

# A BETTER WORLD : GOSPEL PRESENTATION

## SHARE GOSPEL

"Can I tell you how the big story of Jesus connects to that thirst for a better world?"

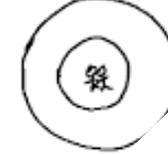
*Damaged by evil*



### CIRCLE 2 - The Broken World

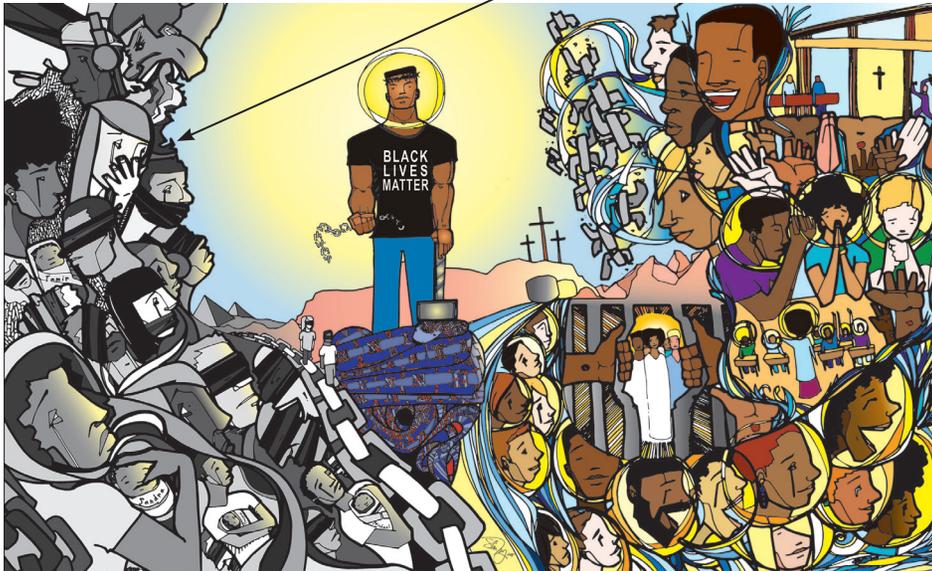
"The left side of this mural captures the brokenness that BLM opposes. It overwhelms us, makes us sad, angry, fearful... We can be tempted to feel stuck in the hopelessness around us, or to fight broken systems with broken responses, or to distance ourselves from the whole thing."

*Designed for good*

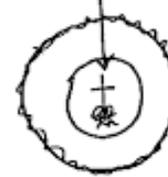


### CIRCLE 1 - The Beautiful World

"We long for an unbroken world because that's what we were created for— a world without racism, death, violence to black Americans, or to any people. But the problem is we have shoved God out of the center of our lives and our world, and the result is rampant self-centeredness and sin. We need more than ourselves to see real change in our hearts, our relationships, and the systems around us."



*Reclaimed for better*



### CIRCLE 3 - Enter Jesus

"Jesus took our personal brokenness and our world's brokenness into the grave with him. He defeated it and redeemed it by dying and coming back to life, proving that death and destruction do not get the final say. Jesus came to speak the truth to both victim and oppressor, to free us from ourselves, our sin & brokenness, and to break the chains of our personal & systemic brokenness. He reconciles us to each other across all lines of division and offers us new hearts and new love to work for justice if we say yes to him."

Everybody needs to let Jesus into their story no matter which box you checked. (Reference their sticker.)"

*Start together to heal*



### CIRCLE 4 - Sent Together to Heal

"As he heals us, he's not satisfied with our individual healing alone. He leads us in restoring relationships, repairing communities, and seeking justice, breaking chains, and he sends out to heal. Some of the greatest social movements of the world came out of the teachings & resources of Jesus. For Jesus-followers, pursuing justice with Jesus is living into & proclaiming our future hope. This is why we let others know about Jesus & what he has done."

"This is depicted on the right side of the mural. We want to join God's movement of joy, hope, prayer, justice, service, & mission."

### INVITE RESPONSE TO GOSPEL

Please consider responding to this in some practical way.

1. Would you be willing to let Jesus lead your life, and ask him to transform you from the inside out?
2. Would you be willing to walk with Jesus and seek justice his way, in his power?
3. Would you join our community as we work together on this? What would it take for you to know God right now and to join with others in God's mission of making his name known to the whole world?

[4. If you do not have a BCM small group yet, see if you can plant one wisely.]

# A BETTER WORLD : SCRIPT

1 page, no pictures.

1. **Gain their attention.** "Where do you find hope?"
2. **Introduce yourself (ask their name), state your purpose, and ask permission.** "We're with InterVarsity Christian Fellowship and we want to discuss hope and how God might be at work amidst the racial tension in America today."
3. **Invite them to put a sticker on an image on Panel 1, how have they have been affected by racial injustice.** "There has been a lot of news lately about the pain the black community has been encountering: injustice, brutality, and even death. Which boxes best describe how this has affected you?" (Confused, Exhausted, Despairing, Hopeful, Frustrated, Grieving / Sad, Angry, Fear, Other)

**Why did you place your stickers where you did?**

**What gives you hope for change amidst the pain expressed by many in the black community?**

4. **Tell the story of Luke 4 and move to large artwork.** "We are InterVarsity Christian Fellowship. We believe that Jesus offers hope in the midst of racial injustice and pain. Come look at the art over here."

This mural depicts Jesus speaking hope to his people during a time of incredible racial brokenness and oppression. The words on the sides are part of his opening sermon to describe his priorities. (Let me read them outloud.)

Jesus is claiming to be the promised deliverer that would set the Israelites free. He hates the injustice that he saw his people suffer (slavery, death, injustice, violence) and he hates these very things that Black Americans have endured and continue to endure today. He speaks prophetically to both the oppressor and the oppressed.

5. **Ask them about their experience with Jesus.**
  - How does this compare with the image of Jesus you've perceived or heard of?
  - What do you like about this view of Jesus?
  - If these words were true, what do you think Jesus is offering us today?
  - How does this image of Jesus speak hope to our campus?

6. **Share the gospel.** Black Lives Matter stands against the brutality, injustice, and violence that Black Americans face every day. We all long for justice, healing, reform, & a world without brokenness. Black Lives Matter is crying out for that better world. No matter our ethnicity, BLM is an invitation to face ourselves, our small hearts, our anger, our desire for more. In Jesus' quote, he calls out the brokenness with the system and world. He invites both the perpetrator and the victim to get right with him.

Can I tell you how the big story of Jesus connects to our desire for a better world?  
(Share the Gospel using the mural and these prompts.)

7. **Invite them to respond.** Please consider practically responding to this:
  - Would you be willing to let Jesus lead your life, and ask him to transform you from the inside out?
  - Would you be willing to walk with Jesus and seek justice his way, in his power?
  - Would you join our community as we work together on this? What would it take for you to know God right now and to join with others in God's mission of making his name known to the whole world?

## CIRCLE ONE

We long for an unbroken world because that's what we were created for—a world without racism, death, violence to black Americans, or to any people.

But the problem is we have shoved God out of the center of our lives and our world, and the result is rampant self-centeredness and sin.

We need more than ourselves to see real change in our hearts, our relationships, and the systems around us.



## Left Side of Mural (CIRCLE TWO)

The left side of this mural captures the brokenness that BLM opposes. It overwhelms us, makes us sad, angry, fearful...

We can be tempted to feel stuck in the hopelessness around us, or to fight broken systems with broken responses, or to distance ourselves from the whole thing.

## THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE MURAL (CIRCLE 4)

Once he heals us, he's not satisfied with our individual healing alone. He leads us in restoring relationships, repairing communities, and seeking justice, breaking chains, and he sends out out to heal. Some of the greatest social movements of the world came out of the teachings & resources of Jesus.

For Jesus' followers, pursuing justice with Jesus is living into & proclaiming our future hope. This is why we let others know about Jesus & what he has done. This is depicted on the right side of the mural.

We want to join God's movement of joy, prayer, service, justice, hope, and mission.

## THE CENTER OF THE MURAL (CIRCLE 3)

Jesus came to speak the truth to both victim and oppressor, and to break the chains of our personal and systemic brokenness.

And he did it through dying and coming back to life, proving that death & destruction do not have the final say.

Everybody needs to let Jesus into their story no matter which box you checked. (reference their sticker.)

Jesus took our personal brokenness and our world's brokenness into the grave with him. He defeated and redeemed it by coming back to life. He offers us new hearts and new love to work for justice if we say yes to him.