



We Unite **Viewers Guide**

***We Unite*, 10 minutes.**

Produced by Tarmac Films for the United Religions Initiative (URI) 2008

www.uri.org

We Unite offers a glimpse of how interfaith cooperation is making a difference across the world. Filmed on location in Ethiopia, Uganda, Philippines and India, it highlights how people from different faith groups are uniting in pursuit of a common purpose. These groups represent hundreds of local interfaith groups in over 70 countries that make up URI's global network.

Through URI's support network, thousands upon thousands of ordinary people from diverse religions, spiritual expression and indigenous traditions are acting together for the common good and proclaiming, we unite!

Please help URI spread its message that ordinary people organized in local interfaith groups can overcome age old religious tensions and create cultures of peace, justice and healing. The Viewers Guide provides sample questions for conversation and ways to connect with URI.

Questions for Conversation

Conversations can happen in paired interviews or small groups. After first round of conversations, invite everyone to share highlights together. If not enough time for all of the questions, choose ones most suited to your group.

1. Introduce yourself and offer your first responses to this film. What moved you? What surprised you? What are you curious about?
2. Interfaith cooperation is growing across the world. Please share an experience of an interfaith encounter that was especially meaningful for you, where you were surprised or humbled and where there was a genuine experience of respect and friendship.
3. *We Unite* celebrates people overcoming differences and uniting around common cause to create a better world. Imagine its ten years from now and this new reality has accelerated. What do you see is different? How has cooperation among people of diverse faith traditions been instrumental in fostering these changes? Imagine what part you have played.

Dialogue Conversations

These Dialogue Conversations involves pairs of people each interviewing each other. Please engage your partner in these questions.

1. “We, people of diverse religions”..... are words that allow thousands of different voices to speak out. Today, people of different faiths and traditions are speaking together and cooperating together to build a better world. Please offer an experience that tells of people of diverse faiths building new bridges of understanding and cooperation where there were none before.
2. URI is learning that it is through caring human relationships that sustained change in attitudes and behaviors occur. Would you share a story of an interfaith encounter that was especially meaningful to you? An encounter where you were surprised or humbled? Where there was a genuine experience of respect and friendship?
3. The *We Unite* video lifts up the reality that while religions of the world have been responsible for violence, wars and conflict, they have also been responsible for incredible good. Drawing on your experience in your own faith tradition, please offer some examples from sacred texts, prayers, ceremonies, or practical actions that have supported you in doing good in the world.
4. The year 2010 marks URI’s 10th anniversary. The vision of *We Unite* people overcoming differences and uniting around common cause throughout the world is happening. Imagine it is ten or more years from now and this vision is actually a new reality in the world. What do you see is different? How has cooperation among people of different religions, spiritual expressions and indigenous traditions been instrumental in making these changes? What part do you imagine playing?