

REACH THE WORLD NEXT DOOR

Cross-Cultural Ministry Training Workbook





By Scott Griswold

Copyright 2020 by ASAP Ministries and the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists

This booklet is part of the Reach the World Next Door cross-cultural ministry training program, created in partnership with the Adventist Learning Community, ASAP Ministries, the North American Division Evangelism Institute, and the Texas Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. To access the free online version of the training, visit adventistlearningcommunity.com/courses/rwnd. To order a hard copy, contact ASAP Ministries at asapministries.org or 269-471-3026.

For more information on cross-cultural training visit reachtheworldnextdoor.com

Unless otherwise indicated, all scripture quotations are taken from the New King James Version®. Copyright © 1982 by Thomas Nelson. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Introduction

THE OPPORTUNITY

Imagine not knowing a loving God when you feel the need to pray. Picture your life, never having a Bible as your guide. Think of your darkest moment and how it would have been without the mercy and uplifting power of Jesus. That is the reality for at least 4,000 unreached people groups consisting of more than 3 billion precious individuals.

Doesn't it make you long to do something? Perhaps you have always wanted to be a missionary but could not go overseas because of family responsibilities, financial challenges, or other barriers? The mission field has moved next door! More than 300 of those unreached people groups have migrated to North America in large numbers. They have also poured into cities throughout the world. We can readily be part of finishing the Great Commission and seeing Jesus return.

Do you feel unprepared to do this? This course, *Reach the World Next Door*, will help you become more effective as you learn from Jesus and depend on the Holy Spirit. You will be able to make friends with people of other cultures, to care meaningfully for a refugee, immigrant, or international student, and to share your faith with a Buddhist, a Muslim, or others.

THE METHOD

Reach the World Next Door has developed a 13-lesson training program that prepares Christians to befriend and witness to their unreached neighbors. The focus is on immigrants, refugees, and international students; however, the outreach skills that you will learn can be used to witness to anyone who needs to hear the Good News. The program consists of video segments, small group discussions about biblical mission principles, and field activities that take you out to meet, serve, and share with people from non-Christian backgrounds.

The method is based on Jesus' method. He was the best of teachers and called His students together to learn as a small group of disciples. They spent time with Him and then He sent them out to witness two-by-two.

Since we can't physically walk with Jesus, the video segments will give you examples and instruction from individuals who are serving cross-culturally. *My Favorite Missionary*, a Bible study booklet, will focus your attention on Jesus in the specific stories where He reached out cross-culturally. The small group focus will give you the community that can encourage you and hold you accountable. The *Praying for the World Next Door* booklet will help you depend on God through prayer at every step. Finally, each lesson has a cross-cultural activity that will take you out into the field to learn by doing.

BY YOURSELF OR IN A GROUP?

If you complete the full program here using a physical copy and want to receive certification, you can send your completed workbook to ASAP Ministries, PO Box 84, Berrien Springs, MI 49103, or email a digital copy to info@reachtheworldnextdoor.com. Look at the *Mission Checklist* in the back of this workbook to have a clear picture of the assignments. You might find it easier to do the course online at adventistlearningcommunity.com/courses/rwnd.

However, you will likely find this training more effective and more fun if you invite at least one other person to join you. The encouragement and accountability increase the chances for your success in this mission. If no one nearby can partner with you, consider recruiting a friend from elsewhere to join you in the training. You can meet with another person or an entire group online through a conference call.

You can do the *Reach the World Next Door* training in person with youth groups, Sabbath school classes, and families. It can also be an effective activity for club ministries and Friday or Saturday evening programs. You can meet at church, in homes, in a park, or at a restaurant.

If you want to do this as a group in person, you can obtain hard copies of the Reach the World Next Door Workbook, *Praying for the World Next Door*, *My Favorite Missionary*, and MyLanguageMyLife.com cards for a donation at asapministries.org or by calling (269) 471-3026, depending on availability.

If you want to meet as a group online, the *Reach the World Next Door* team will coach you on how to do this when you write to info@reachtheworldnextdoor.com. Adventist Learning Community will set up a cohort so one of you can be the facilitator. All cohort members will register, and their assignments will come to the designated facilitator, who will be able to encourage their involvement in mission outreach.

THE LEADERSHIP

If you want to do this course as a small group, read on for specific details to help the training flow smoothly. Here's the simple summary first:

1. Pray and recruit a team to do the training with you.
2. Set a time and place for the meetings.
3. Review the lesson in advance.
4. Print, order, or email the materials to team members. Remember, if you want to hold your small group online, email info@reachtheworldnextdoor.com for information on how to register your entire group as a cohort with Adventist Learning Community.
5. Go through each lesson together.
 - Team Care and Accountability (ask questions, encourage, fill out the *Mission Checklist* according to what team members accomplished, and pray).
 - Presentation (show the video).
 - Discovery and Discussion (ask questions, include everybody).
 - Team Prayer (pray together claiming promises).
 - Assignments (review together and discuss plans).
6. Start a Discovery Bible Group for team members and non-Christians.

Each Reach the World Next Door group needs a leader who will commit time, prayer, and love to see the team succeed. The instructions for when to play the video segments and what questions to ask and assignments to give are all built right into the workbook.

Is that leader you? You may not feel qualified, but everything you need to know is there and the Holy Spirit is fully adequate to help you facilitate the learning and provide the caring support. You can also email info@reachtheworldnextdoor.com to request additional coaching. If you do not feel you should lead, seek a friend to do it for you and your group, but you will grow more if you offer to assist.

If you do not have a group yet, use the *Reach the World Next Door* promotional materials (available at reachtheworldnextdoor.com/training/online) to help make family and friends aware of the needs of unreached internationals living nearby. Ask your church leadership for permission to share information about this training at church and invite members to join. Ask those who are interested to fill out a commitment card and meet you after the church service.

Talk with your group of interested friends and family to establish a meeting place and time. Plan to meet weekly, setting aside 1½ hours for your time together. Decide if you will meet at church, in a home, or somewhere else. Determine whether a meal/refreshments will help or hinder your time together. Choose an assistant to help you lead. Give him or her some part to do in the meeting each week. Pray together. Jesus sent the disciples out two-by-two, and you will be stronger together.

Prepare the materials in advance. Make sure everyone has this workbook and the booklets as mentioned above. The other option is to enroll at adventistlearningcommunity.com/courses/rwnd and then print the resources from the online course and organize them into folders or binders.

Each week, review the lesson in advance and become familiar with the content. Arrange seating to allow group members to easily see and interact with each other. Lead your team so everyone has a chance to talk and no one monopolizes the conversations. Affirm what members say when you can, but bring them back to the lesson if they get sidetracked. Monitor the time, referring to the suggested times allotted for each section so that you can cover everything included in the lesson.

As a leader, you are key in holding the team accountable to put the teaching into action. Use the *Mission Checklist* to keep track of attendance and completed field reports. If you are doing this course on your own, you can use this list to help ensure you learn as much as possible.

If team members miss a meeting, have them listen to the video segments and write answers to the small group questions as well as doing all the assignments. If members miss a field activity, encourage them until they can show you that it is completed. If several are getting too far behind, postpone your weekly meeting in order to make sure everyone continues to do the actual mission work. If one person cannot keep up, encourage him or her to wait for another cycle of training. Good learning will not take place without applying what is learned in the activities.

Does this sound busy? It is a real commitment that should be entered with serious thought and prayer. Each group meeting lasts about 1½ hours, the field assignments average an hour and the reading and video homework are about an hour. If you and your group want to accomplish that each week, you will have to pray about your schedule to see where God will help you scale back on other activities to make room for this important work among the unreached. Especially consider involving your family in this program so that your time together with them increases rather than decreases. An alternative is to take longer than 13 weeks to complete the training.

Serving others, both church members and those who are not Christians, takes the sacrifice of time and energy. When we reach out cross-culturally there will be frustrations and challenges. Sometimes our efforts will be rejected and our tears will flow. Will it be worth it?

Jesus thinks so. When Jesus was considering the necessity of the cross, He said, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it produces much grain. He who loves his life will lose it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life" (John 12:24-25). As we throw ourselves into the needs of the world, it will take time to see the fruit. Let's remember the value of just one. Jesus died for that one, and that one will bring Him joy for eternity. Additionally, one person reached may in turn reach many of his or her own people. Let's claim the promise in Isaiah 60:22, "A little one shall become a thousand, and a small one a strong nation. I, the Lord, will hasten it in its time."

Befriending the Unreached Next Door



MISSION OBJECTIVES

- A. I will identify who unreached people groups are and discover who are the unreached nearby.
- B. I will make one or more initial friendly contacts with people of other cultures and exchange contact information to enable follow-up.
- C. I will explore the website mylanguagemylife.com sufficiently in order to share its resources with others, including people who speak languages other than English.



TEAM CARE AND ACCOUNTABILITY (20 MINUTES)

1. What would you like to learn and accomplish by being part of this Reach the World Next Door training and team?
2. What needs or challenges are you facing that we can pray for?
3. Pray for each other and the people in your community who have never had a chance to know God or receive His salvation through Jesus.



PRESENTATION (24:32 MINUTES)

WATCH: *Befriending the Unreached Next Door*



DISCOVERY AND DISCUSSION (30 MINUTES)

Finding the Unreached

1. How do you feel after watching *Befriending the Unreached Next Door* and what did you learn?

2. **Read Revelation 14:6.** Who do you think of when you hear the specific groups that get to hear the everlasting gospel before Jesus returns?

3. There are more than 4,000 unreached people groups in the world consisting of over 3 billion precious people. Unreached people groups are those with a unique ethnicity and language that have less than 2% evangelical Christians among them. Some groups have as few as zero percent. These have not had a chance to hear the Gospel. We must move them to the top of our priorities in how we spend our time and resources.

Discover new things about the unreached by looking at the 100 largest unreached people groups at joshuaproject.net/unreached/1. Click on the name of any ethnic group to read a profile of their culture, history, religion, and more. Write down some basic information about one specific group now. Then share with your team what you found.

4. **Read Acts 2:4-8.** When the Holy Spirit was poured out, what had God done in advance to make sure that people of every nation were able to hear?

5. **Read:** *We should be able to see in the multiplying opportunities to reach many foreigners in America a divinely appointed means of rapidly extending the third angel's message into all the nations of the earth. God in His providence has brought men to our very doors and thrust them, as it were, into our arms, that they might learn the truth, and be qualified to do a work we could not do in getting the light before men of other tongues* (White 1946, 570).

Read Acts 17:26-28. In what ways do you think God wants to use the movement of immigrants, refugees, and international students?

6. To find out which of these unreached people groups live near you, visit peoplegroups.info. Click on Search for Diaspora People. Then click on Metro Area. Find and select the city nearest you. Scroll down to the list of people groups and choose one to learn about. Record the details below for one or more people groups that you are especially interested in. Be sure you choose non-Christian groups. Then share with your team and add their information to your list if it is of interest to you.

| People Group | Religion | Status of Christianity | Number in Local Metro Area | Additional Information |
|--------------|----------|------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |

7. Do you already know someone who is in one of the unreached groups in this metro area? Think through your neighborhood, your place of work, your school, or the places you shop and visit. Write down who you know. Then share about the people on your list with your team.

| Name (or description if you don't yet know his or her name) | People Group | Where I See This Person |
|---|--------------|-------------------------|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

8. If you do not know anyone from an unreached people group, where are some places that you can begin to meet them? (For more ideas look at reachtheworldnextdoor.com under "Discover the Unreached Near You").

First Contacts

9. Often church members spend time primarily with each other. The love of Jesus compels us to find unreached people and make friends with them. Let's consider some things we can say this week, as we deliberately try to meet people who have come from other countries. Circle the questions you especially like and will try to use.
- A. Do you speak any other languages besides English?
 - B. How do you say "Thank you" in that language?
 - C. Where is your family originally from?
 - D. Tell me about that country. How is it similar and different from here?
 - E. I work at _____. (I go to school at _____). What do you do?
 - F. What did you do (or your parents) in the country you came from?

List additional questions you could ask, as you first get to know someone from another culture:

10. Practice saying the questions above with each other so they will feel more natural to you when you say them to someone this week.

Important Follow-Up

- 11.** The people you meet are highly important to God. Pray for Him to guide you to an opportunity to see them again. You might say, "I've really enjoyed talking to you. I hope we can meet again. Here's my contact information. May I have yours too?"

Put their information in a notebook or in a place on your phone where you can easily find it to pray for them and to contact them. Text a friendly note to keep in touch.

Here are some things you could say to open an opportunity to meet up again:

- A. "I would love to try Vietnamese food but I never know what to order. Could I take you out to eat sometime and have you show me?"
- B. "Would you like to get together to practice English?"
- C. "Is there anything that you are finding difficult to do in this new place that I could help you with?"
- D. "I've always wanted to see what worship at a mosque is like. Could you take me?"

Which of these options do you like? Write what else you could do to follow up:

- 12.** The first time you meet a Buddhist, Hindu, or Muslim is probably not the time to give them Christian literature. You should typically develop a caring relationship before sharing about spiritual matters. However, you will meet some people that you may never see again. There is a resource that you can share with them in their own languages. mylanguagemylife.com has Bible-based studies and radio programs or movies in over 180 languages.

In order to familiarize yourself with what resources are available, look up the site now and find the page that matches the language of one of the unreached people groups you read about earlier. Share with your team what you find.

Order copies of this card at asapministries.org or by calling 269-471-3026. Carry the cards and share them with at least three people this week. Show people on your phone and/or on their phones so they can easily find what's in their own language.

- 13.** What have you learned today and how will you use it this week?



TEAM PRAYER (10 MINUTES)

Pray together for yourselves, the specific unreached people groups you learned about, and the new friends of other cultures you will soon meet; ask God to lead you to the individuals and the people groups He wants you to work with; pray for others that can join you in this work or that you can train up in the future to multiply more workers for the harvest of the unreached.

Promises to Claim:

- ✔ *Arise, shine; for your light has come! And the glory of the Lord is risen upon you...The Gentiles shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising (Isaiah 60:1, 3).*
- ✔ *Your ears will hear a word behind you, saying, "This is the way, walk in it," whenever you turn to the right hand or whenever you turn to the left (Isaiah 30:21).*
- ✔ *An angel guided Philip to the one who was seeking for light and who was ready to receive the gospel, and today angels will guide the footsteps of those workers who will allow the Holy Spirit to sanctify their tongues and refine and ennoble their hearts (White 1911a, 109).*
- ✔ *A revival of true godliness among us is the greatest and most urgent of all our needs. To seek this should be our first work. There must be earnest effort to obtain the blessing of the Lord not because God is not willing to bestow His blessing upon us, but because we are unprepared to receive it...It is our work by confession, humiliation, repentance, and earnest prayer, to fulfill the conditions upon which God has promised to grant us His blessing (White 1958, 121).*



ASSIGNMENTS (5 MINUTES)

1. This week make your first contacts with people of other cultures or deepen friendships you already have. Read carefully over the *Contact Log* and then use one for each individual you reach out to. This will greatly increase your effectiveness in praying for the people you are meeting and will help you carefully follow up.
2. Mobilize and Multiply. Share with a friend or family member what you learned about unreached people groups and how to make friends with them. Invite him or her to make at least one friend of another culture like you are doing. Teach him or her how to share mylanguagemylife.com and challenge him or her to share it with at least three people.
3. Complete study #1 in *My Favorite Missionary* and focus your prayers on "Immigrants" in *Praying for the World Next Door*.
4. Watch the following video clips:

Here's how to give good news in more than 180 languages; Elder Dan Serns shares further how to be a good neighbor; Ms. Anna Coridan tells her story of moving into a refugee apartment complex to start ministry; Dr. Conrad Vine further explains who the unreached are and what we can do.
5. Take *Mission Survey #1*. At the end of the training program, we will take the survey again to see how we have grown.
6. Complete the form: *Field Report #1*.

MISSION SURVEY #1: GROWING WHILE GOING

Jesus asked His followers to go and make disciples of all nations (Matthew 28:18-20). That is an overwhelming task, but He specifically promised He had all authority to make it happen and He would personally be with us. At the very start of His training of the disciples, Jesus promised, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men" (Matthew 4:19). You are about to start a similar journey as you go through *Reach the World Next Door*. There is much to learn and so much to do. Jesus has the same commitment to train you and be with you that He gave to Peter, James, and John.

This mission survey will help you assess your interest, confidence, involvement, and ability in discipleship and cross-cultural missions. Take it now to stir your mind about where you need to grow. Take it again at the end of the training to see where you have grown.

For each question check one of the numbers that you think typically fits you: *Seldom (1), Occasionally (2), Frequently (3), Nearly Always (4)*.

| Questions | S | O | F | N |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. I pray for unreached people groups and the countries they are from. I ask God to raise up laborers to finish the Gospel Commission. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 2. I am aware of the ethnic groups living in the metro area nearest me and feel concern for their well-being. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 3. I think about, talk about, and make plans to reach out to refugees, immigrants, and international students because I know it is strategic for finishing the Gospel Commission. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 4. I am friendly to people I do not know who come from other cultures. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 5. I know where to find biblical resources in other languages and I share those resources with people who speak those languages. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 6. I enjoy experiencing other cultures, like tasting new food, learning about holidays, and celebrating traditions, etc. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 7. I take time to learn about different countries, cultures, and religions. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 8. When I am irritated by something in another person's culture, I ask questions so I can better understand and appreciate differences. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |

| | S | O | F | N |
|---|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| 9. I show respect to people of any background, valuing people for their good qualities and contributions rather than their skin color, ethnicity, gender, religion, education, or economic status. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 10. I take time to learn about the plight of refugees and pray for them. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 11. I know what organizations are helping refugees and I give to support them. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 12. I am aware of refugees living near me and I am befriending them. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 13. I study and think about the biblical passages that emphasize wholistic ministry to people's various needs. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 14. The way I spend my time and money reflects Jesus' concern and compassion towards those in need. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 15. I tangibly help people from other countries, like immigrants, refugees, and international students. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 16. I spend time with God in prayer, Bible study, and worship. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 17. I am confident that I have a saving relationship with God through Jesus. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 18. I live a Spirit-filled life, growing in victory, in the fruit of the Spirit. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 19. I know what my spiritual gifts are and use them for God. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 20. I take time to break away from work, school, media, and other distractions to grow closer to God. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 21. I ask questions and listen with genuine interest to learn what people need and believe. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 22. I affirm the positive things other people value, trying to become a closer friend. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 23. I look for opportunities to bridge conversations from ordinary things to spiritual matters. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 24. I share what God has done for me and other stories to help people around me grow in understanding and faith. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 25. I invite people to try different things that will help them experience God's power, love, and the benefits of following His principles. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |

| | S | O | F | N |
|---|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| 26. I offer to pray with people no matter what their religious background. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 27. I share scriptures and study the Bible with people who have never before had that opportunity. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 28. I share the story of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection with those who have not heard. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 29. I invite people to receive Jesus as their Savior and Lord. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 30. I learn about other religions and the various approaches that are effective in sharing truth with people who practice those religions. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 31. I read the Bible to understand and follow what it means to be a disciple of Jesus and a disciple-maker. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 32. I help new believers follow Jesus, trying to disciple them as Jesus did His followers. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 33. I compare my culture to what the Bible teaches and seek to make changes to better follow God's ways. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 34. I interact with new believers from other cultures and religions to help them examine their cultures in light of the Bible so they can keep what is good, but change or replace what is sinful. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 35. I am part of a church group and seek to help it be more Spirit-filled like the early church described in the book of Acts. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 36. I invite people who are not Christian or who are new believers to join a small group Bible study with me. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 37. I learn principles of conflict resolution from the Bible and try to apply them in the conflicts I face. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 38. When I have a conflict with someone of another culture, I take time to understand their perspective and seek to adapt to their culture's way of resolving problems. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 39. I learn new methods so I can be better at witnessing and serving refugees, immigrants, and international students. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 40. I promote the needs of the unreached and invite others to help me reach out. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |

Total Your Circled Points _____

Today's Date: _____

Called to Go

40 60

Grow While We Go

80 100 120

Multiply

140 160

Place your number on the above scale. The titles remind us that no matter how little we feel we know or can do, Jesus has **called us to go**. Secondly, we should not wait until we feel we have it all together as we will grow **while we go**. And finally, as we gain experience we are equipped to help others get involved and should seek to **multiply** by calling and training others.

Go back above and note those areas in which you especially want to grow. All of the concepts, attitudes, and abilities assessed in the mission survey are taught and encouraged in the *Reach the World Next Door* training. As you apply yourself to learning and implementing, you will definitely become more effective in your mission for Christ and your relationship with Him.

You can keep this survey handy to use it in your prayers, asking God to make you an effective disciple-maker and multiplier among the unreached. You may also want to retake this test part way through the training to see how you are improving. You and your entire group will take the survey again in *Lesson 12* to help you evaluate the effectiveness of this training and to see what areas you want to further grow in.

.....
FIELD REPORT #1
.....



Name _____ Date Due _____

Email Address _____ Phone _____

Home Church _____ Team Number _____

BEFRIENDING THE UNREACHED NEXT DOOR

1. Who I met, how and where I met them, and what we talked about (begin a *Contact Log* for each person or family and keep the sheets in a binder):

2. How I felt during this activity and what I learned (which strategies were most successful or least successful):

3. What I did to follow up with those I met, and what I plan to do in the next week to get to know them better or to meet more people:

4. The friend or family member with whom I shared what I learned and invited to do the same:

5. Someone or something I would like us to be praying about:

6. Things I want to remember or share with my team from the video clips, my completion of study #1 in *My Favorite Missionary*, and my focus on prayers for "Immigrants" in *Praying for the World Next Door*.

Enjoying and Navigating Cultural Diversity



MISSION OBJECTIVES

- A. I will learn more about a person and his or her culture through asking questions in the context of friendship-building activities.
- B. I will describe, interpret, and evaluate - D.I.E. (Cassiday and Stringer 2009, 207) - cultural differences in a way that leads to understanding and deeper relationships.



TEAM CARE AND ACCOUNTABILITY (20 MINUTES)

1. Who did you meet from another country and what did you learn from the experience? (Share from your *Contact Log*).
2. What did you learn from study #1 in *My Favorite Missionary* and the video clips?
3. What needs or challenges are you facing that we can pray for?
4. Pray together especially for each other and the friends from other cultures whom you have met.



PRESENTATION (14:28 MINUTES)

WATCH: *Enjoying and Navigating Cultural Diversity*. Take notes using the following outline.

1. "Diversity is rooted in the (a)_____ activity of God....
To celebrate creation is to celebrate (b)_____ " (Duane Elmer).
2. "For you are all (a)_____ of God through (b)_____ in
Christ Jesus" (Galatians 3:26).

3. D = _____ .

4. I = _____ .

5. E = _____ .

6. FOUR TIPS:

TIP #1 Be a (a) _____ .

TIP #2 Ask how (b) _____ would do it.

TIP #3 Don't be the (c) _____ and don't be the (d) _____ .

TIP #4 If not (e) _____ , do it their way.

7. "I have become (a) _____ things to all men, that I might by

(b) _____ means (c) _____ some" (1 Corinthians 9:22).



DISCOVERY AND DISCUSSION (40 MINUTES)

1. How do you feel after watching *Enjoying and Navigating Cultural Diversity* and what did you learn?

2. As we meet people of other cultures we sometimes are confused or frustrated by things they do. Cultures are puzzling. The following activity will help us use the three simple steps we learned in the presentation (D.I.E. D-Description, I-Interpretation, and E-Evaluation).

Read the following scenario in which a person of one culture gives a **description** of something that was strange or frustrating in another culture.

I just don't understand. I have a friend who really loves a certain girl but he's going to marry someone else. That's so strange! He said it's because his older sister thinks this other girl is best for him. Why would he ever let his sister decide something that important? Shouldn't he marry for love? In fact, their whole culture confuses me. They are so nice and agreeable that I do not know what they are really thinking. Several times I have asked him and his sister if they would like to go to church with me. They have always acted excited and said they would come, but they have never come once. Why don't they just tell me they are too busy or don't want to come?

3. Let's try to **interpret** the cultural difference by asking questions. What are some possible reasons the person in the other culture is accepting his sister's advice?

4. Why might the people say *yes* when they don't really mean it?

5. Read the interpretation, the explanation, that the person of the puzzling culture might give:

In my culture leaders, teachers, parents, and older siblings are so important. They have sacrificed so much for us and have a wealth of experience to pass on to us. I am so grateful for what they have done. That is why we pretty much follow what they expect. Sure, sometimes it crosses what I want to do, but I guess I have to make some sort of sacrifice back to them to show the respect and honor they deserve. That brings a sense of peace that I could not find by just doing my own thing. I guess that is what our culture is all about—relationships. We are pretty careful about not disappointing each other. Sometimes we even say we will do something that we don't plan to do just because we don't want to make the person who is asking feel bad. That seems so much better than just telling them straight. Besides our people are pretty good at catching a hint.

6. Discuss the cultural puzzle using these questions to make an **evaluation**.

💬 Is there anything morally wrong in the scenario on either side of the cultures or are they just two different ways of looking at things?

💬 In what way do you think the two different cultures could balance each other out in an even more positive way than either culture's singular approach?

7. Repeat the process with the next puzzle piece **description** as time allows. Read the following:

Last year our church sponsored one of the refugee children from the ethnic group that worships in our school building. We paid for him to attend summer camp and also for a whole year at our private church school. We knew his family could not afford it otherwise. The boy loved camp and school. This year we gave the sponsorship to another child from a family that had an even greater need. After a while, I noticed that the family we were no longer helping had stopped coming to church. I asked around and found out the mother had been telling people we treated her child unfairly. I called the mother by phone and tried to explain the church and school policy is to help for one year only and to help equally all who apply. She listened and said, "Sure, that's fine." But they have not been back to church.

8. Discuss a possible **interpretation** to the puzzling culture above. What are some possible reasons that the person in the other culture acted as he did?

9. Read the **interpretation** that matches below:

In my culture those with property, money, and influence use it to care for those who are weaker. Once someone extends care and protection to us, we show our appreciation by being loyal and supportive. We will do anything for them. We expect them to continue to provide that care, just like a good parent would. Of course, there are always more people to be helped, but they are not part of the family. It is very shameful to be abandoned and no one wants to stay where others look at them as misfits.

10. Discuss the cultural puzzle using these questions to make an **evaluation**.

- A. Is there anything morally wrong in the scenario on either side of the cultures or is it just two different ways of looking at things?

- B. In what way do you think the two different cultures could balance each other out in an even more positive way than either culture’s singular approach?

11. Go through the following form Contrasting Cultures to discover more about your own culture.

- A. Each number has two phrases. Circle A or B to show which phrase best fits how you most often feel or think.

| | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|--|
| 1 | I feel great when I accomplish something all by myself. | A | B | I enjoy interacting and working with a team. |
| 2 | I am happiest when I know my decisions please my parents, family members, and friends. | A | B | It is important that I be free to make my own decisions, even if others do not like them. |
| 3 | I am highly motivated to be on time and I think others should be respectful by doing the same. | A | B | In a meeting or gathering, it is most important to me that everyone arrive and be included, even if we start late. |
| 4 | I love anything new and innovative | A | B | I love things that have a history and a story, things that have proved useful over time. |
| 5 | People in authority deserve honor and cooperation. | A | B | People who have achieved and accomplished deserve respect. |
| 6 | My energy is renewed when I am with other people. I would rather not be alone much. | A | B | When I have a spare moment I love to go for a quiet walk, read, or learn something. |
| 7 | Everyone is equal and deserves an opportunity. | A | B | Society runs smoothly when people fulfill their roles well and are content with their place and position. |
| 8 | It is important to me to work through problems gently without embarrassing anyone. | A | B | I think conflict should be handled openly and honestly. |

| | | | | |
|----|---|---|---|--|
| 9 | If there is a problem that needs to be fixed, I will speak up because my opinion can help. | A | B | People should not be dishonored by questioning them in front of others. |
| 10 | Rules and laws are the foundation of societies and should be faithfully followed. | A | B | Caring for people's feelings and needs are more important than being exactly right in all a person says or does. |
| 11 | We can understand and change our circumstances through careful observation and logical conclusions. | A | B | There is more to life than what we see and spiritual forces should be considered in every situation. |

B. Go through the list with your team one line at a time and discuss your similarities and differences. *Are any of these differences moral? Why or why not?*

12. In what ways do you think the two different cultural perspectives, represented by A and B could balance each other out in an even more positive way than either culture's singular approach?

13. What have you learned today and how will you use it this week?



TEAM PRAYER (10 MINUTES)

Pray together for God to continue to lead you to the people He wants you to meet, the specific unreached people groups that He wants you involved in; to give you a deep interest in them and their culture and for their salvation.

PROMISES TO CLAIM:

- ✓ *Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us (Romans 5:5).*
- ✓ *"Until now you have asked nothing in My name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full" (John 16:24).*
- ✓ *When you rise in the morning, do you feel your helplessness and your need of strength from God? And do you humbly, heartily, make known your wants to your heavenly Father? If so, angels mark your prayers, and if these prayers have not gone forth out of feigned lips, when you are in danger of unconsciously doing wrong and exerting an influence which will lead others to do wrong, your guardian angel will be by your side, prompting you to a better course, choosing your words for you, and influencing your actions (White 1875, 363).*



ASSIGNMENTS (5 MINUTES)

1. What do you plan to do to follow up on any of the friendships you have developed? Stay diligent on updating the *Contact Log*. You will find it more and more useful for prayer and follow-up. As you pray, ask God to show you what He thinks is best for the next step in caring for your contacts.
2. Mobilize and Multiply. Share with a friend or family member what you learned about understanding cultural differences. Encourage him or her to do one of the activities in the *Lesson 2 Field Activity: Cultural Study*.
3. Research a specific unreached people group where you live or in the nearest metro area to your home. Use *Lesson 2 Field Activity: Cultural Study* to prepare at least a two-page report or five-minute presentation to share with your team.
4. Complete study #2 in *My Favorite Missionary* and focus your prayers on “Many Languages” in *Praying for the World Next Door*.
5. Watch the following video clips:
Dr. Conrad Vine shows the power of humility for cultural learning; Pastor Philip Tangal shares his story and insights into reaching Nepali Hindus.
6. Complete the form: *Field Report #2*.

LESSON 2 FIELD ACTIVITY: CULTURAL STUDY





Our culture is our life. It is who we are. As a truly caring cross-cultural missionary you will want to learn all you can about the countries and cultures of your new international friends. The more you know and understand, the closer you will come to their hearts and beliefs. Here are many questions that you can ask. They are placed in the setting of more possibilities for spending time together. Use some of these to gather information to write at least a two-page cultural report. Include the name of the people group, their country and basic population information for the group both in their country and where they have migrated (for helps see joshuaproject.net and people-groups.info).

You can also look online and in libraries for further information. The *World Factbook* provides information on the history, people, government, economy, geography, communications, transportation, military, and transnational issues for 267 world entities. (cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/)

1. Eat Together

You might ask your new friend if you can take him or her out to eat at a restaurant that serves food from his or her country. As you order, tell your friend about any particular way you eat (if you are vegetarian, don't eat pork, or can't handle spicy food). This will help for a future time when you might cook together and eat at your friend's house or yours. It will help you all to know how to make food in a way that accommodates each other in advance. If your friend likes to cook, ask to be taught how to make a culturally important recipe like flat bread, a rice dish, or a favorite dessert.

You might ask questions like:

-  What kind of food do people typically eat in your home country?
-  What is your favorite food from your home country?
-  Back home do people usually use a spoon and fork or some other kind of utensil?
-  Who eats together and who does not eat together?

List ideas for additional food-related questions that you could ask your new friends:

2. Spend Time in a Park

Plan a time to get together in the park with your new international friend and his or her family or friends. You might ask your friend to teach you some games from the country your friend came from. You can also share some games that you know.

Enjoy the beauty of nature together, gathering leaves, observing birds, etc. Compare typical trees, flowers, animals in your region and your friend's homeland. You could also bring food for a picnic.

You might ask questions like:

- 💬 What kind of sports and games are popular with the young people in your home country?
- 💬 What do you like to do when you have some free time?
- 💬 Please tell me about some of the most beautiful places in your home country.

List additional games and nature-related questions that you could ask your new friend or list ideas that you could share about games and nature from your country:

3. Share Holiday Celebrations

Many new arrivals are eager to understand and participate in local holidays. Invite your international friends to join you in your celebrations. Through the things you do together and other things you observe and talk about, you can teach about your culture and values, pointing out both good and bad things. Pray for opportunities to emphasize family, moral, and spiritual values that are important to you and that will draw them closer to God. Think about what you could do to build friendships and talk about important values on the various holidays throughout the year.

Ask your new friend if he will soon celebrate any of his home country's holidays. Ask if it would be okay for you to join and observe. Learn something about the holiday in advance so you can know how to ask good questions. This may also help you avoid some spiritual activity on the holiday that would conflict with the Bible and your convictions.

You might ask questions like:

- 💬 What holiday in your home country do you especially enjoy? Why?
- 💬 What did you enjoy about our holiday celebration?
- 💬 What things did we do that you want to understand more about?

What holidays or commemorations are coming up in the next few months? List ideas of how you could use these holidays to build a positive friendship with someone of another culture:

4. Learn More About Their Country and Culture

Ask your new friend to teach you about her culture. You might find books about her country that will help you and her know what to talk about. Learn about the way they dress, eat, live, and work. You could ask her to speak in her language and to show you what it looks like when written. Try to learn some of the basics of her language, both spoken and written. You might want to see if she could share some music from her country as well. Perhaps she even has a national costume and headdress she could show you. Look up the meaning behind your new friend's country's flag. Many people have strong connection to their flag and the significance of the colors and design. Ask to see pictures of family and culture from their home country.

Here are some other questions you might ask about country and culture:

- 🗣️ What do people in your home country do when they greet each other (shake hands, kiss, raise their hands together, palm to palm, etc.)?
- 🗣️ How do you show hospitality when someone visits your home and what do you do when you visit someone else's home?
- 🗣️ When do people typically give gifts in your home country and what do they give?
- 🗣️ In their home country what are the major natural resources, kinds of foods, and exports?
- 🗣️ What is the general education level and what are the main jobs in their country?
- 🗣️ What are the most respected careers in your home culture and what careers are looked down on?
- 🗣️ What are some significant things that happened in your people's history?
- 🗣️ What happens in a marriage ceremony in your home country?
- 🗣️ What are the major diseases and health challenges back in your home country?
- 🗣️ What cultural differences have you noticed between your home country and here?

Are there any cultural "rules" that your friend may need to know about your country in comparison to his or her culture? What are these practices and what should your friend understand about them?

5. Learn More About Their Present Community and Needs

- 🗣️ For your people who have come to this country, what are the greatest needs?
- 🗣️ Who do you know that's meeting those needs?
- 🗣️ If you could help your community in any way, what kind of help or program would you want to do?

FIELD REPORT #2



Name _____ Date Due _____

Email Address _____ Phone _____

Home Church _____ Team Number _____

ENJOYING AND NAVIGATING CULTURAL DIVERSITY

1. These are the people I spent time with and what I did to help during this last week (begin or update a Contact Log for each person or family and keep the sheets in a binder):

2. What I plan to do next with my contacts from other countries in the next week, including those I just helped:

3. The friend or family member with whom I shared what I learned and invited to do the same:

4. Someone or something I would like us to be praying about:

5. Things I want to remember or share with my team from the video clips, my completion of study #2 in *My Favorite Missionary*, and my focus on prayers for "Many Languages" in *Praying for the World Next Door*.

6. The most interesting thing I learned about the culture I studied and which I want to share with my team is (attach separately a minimum of two pages of your learning about a specific culture, preferably of an un-reached people group):

Coming Close to the Heart of Refugees



MISSION OBJECTIVES

- A. I will learn more about the challenges of living as a refugee.
- B. I will listen to someone's transition story of his or her life as a refugee.

(Note to group leader: Prepare carefully in advance for *Lesson 3 Discovery: Loss Simulation*, which is at the end of this lesson. No one else should read the handout until after the activity has been completed.)



TEAM CARE AND ACCOUNTABILITY (20 MINUTES)

1. Share something you learned from *Lesson 2 Field Activity: Cultural Study*.
2. Tell about any experiences you have had in following up on your international contacts. (Keep updating and referring to your *Contact Log*.)
3. What did you learn from study #2 in *My Favorite Missionary* and the video clips?
4. What needs or challenges are you facing that we can pray for?
5. Pray together especially for each other and the people from other cultures that you have met.



PRESENTATION (23:46 MINUTES)

WATCH: *Coming Close to the Heart of Refugees*



DISCOVERY AND DISCUSSION (30 MINUTES)

1. How do you feel after watching *Coming Close to the Heart of Refugees* and what did you learn?
2. When did you, your family, or ancestors move to this country and why did they come?
3. **Read Leviticus 19:33-34.** What kind of actions and attitudes do you think demonstrate what it means to treat the stranger as someone born among you and to love him or her as yourself?
4. **Read Matthew 2:13-15 and 8:20.** What are some of the ways that Jesus experienced what refugees and immigrants go through that you can see in these texts and at other times in His life?
5. Experience together *Lesson 3 Discovery: Loss Simulation*, which you will find at the end of this lesson. Only the leader should look at the instruction sheet while the rest of the group participates.
6. What have you learned today and how will you use it this week?



TEAM PRAYER (10 MINUTES)

Pray together for your visits with refugees to touch their hearts and bring encouragement; for the many displaced people throughout the world; for the soon coming of Jesus to end all suffering.

Promises to Claim:

- ✔ *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God* (2 Corinthians 1:3-4).
- ✔ *Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men [women], for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men [women] to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth* (1 Timothy 2:1-4).
- ✔ *It is in this speck of a world, in the souls that He gave His only-begotten Son to save, that His interest and the interest of all heaven is centered. God is bending from His throne to hear the cry of the oppressed. To every sincere prayer He answers, "Here am I." He uplifts the distressed and downtrodden. In all our afflictions He is afflicted. In every temptation and every trial, the angel of his presence is near to deliver* (White 1898, 356).



ASSIGNMENTS (5 MINUTES)

1. What will you do this week to follow up on your friendships with the people you met last week from other countries? Use the *Contact Log* for each individual. (If you have not made a contact that you can follow up on, go back to the ideas from week #1 to make sure you are developing a new friendship with someone of another culture who is not a Christian.)
2. Read over *Lesson 3 Field Activity: Listen to Their Moving Stories*. Discuss together how you will find refugees to talk with. If appropriate and possible, take someone with you who is not part of your team yet, so they can catch the vision for this ministry as well. After completing the interview, write your response on paper so you can share with your team next week.
3. Mobilize and Multiply. Share with a friend or family member what you learned about refugees. Encourage him or her to watch one of the video clips that touched you or to visit a refugee with you.
4. Complete study #3 in *My Favorite Missionary* and focus your prayers on "Refugees" in *Praying for the World Next Door*.
5. Watch at least one of the following video clips to learn more about the experience of refugees:
 - A. Ms. Tara Vang tells the huge impact church members made on her refugee family (GYC) (Start at 15:53.)
 - B. Three friends from Iowa, Missouri, and the world share, "Refugees, Pain and Trauma Dealing with Everyday Life" (3ABN)
 - C. Pastor Desta describes the journey from Ethiopia to Minnesota and how to help refugees adjust (ASAP Ministries)
 - D. See what God's people are doing around the world to help refugees.
6. Complete the form: *Field Report #3*.

GIVING OPPORTUNITIES AND VOLUNTEER POSSIBILITIES.

If you would like to volunteer overseas or help financially, here are the websites of some organizations that work with refugees: adra.org, adventisthelp.org, asapministries.org, impact-hope.org, refugeeministries.org.

It is possible that you will meet refugees from one of the language groups that have many Christians among them already. For example, the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists is coordinating work among a number of groups such as those from Myanmar (Burma) and Central Africa which have many Seventh-day Adventists among them. You can find out which groups already have church planting consultants and get advice and support from them as needed. (See list at refugeeministries.org/church-planting-consultants.)

Do not be surprised if the people group you are trying to help has no consultant. That simply confirms what these lessons show—there are many unreached groups that we must now focus on. If you discover one, please consult Adventist Refugee and Immigrant Ministries (ARIM) with questions about reaching out to them. At the time of this writing Terri Saelee is the coordinator for ARIM. (Contact address: terrisaelee@nadadventist.org.)

LESSON 3 DISCOVERY: LOSS SIMULATION

SET UP

Leader: Give 16 small pieces of paper (e.g., index cards, sticky notes, or paper cut/torn to a similar size) to each participant, and make sure everyone has something to write with. (Optional: You may wish to use four different colors of paper, and give each participant four pieces of each color.)

Tell Them (demonstrate with one piece of paper):

- Divide the pieces of paper into four piles of four (divide by colors, if using four colors of paper)
- In the first pile, write four activities you enjoy (one on each piece of paper); in the next pile, write four things you own that are important to you; in the next pile, write four of the most special people presently in your life; and in the last pile, write four roles you currently hold in your life (e.g., parent, sister, student, teacher, etc.).

SELECTED LOSS

Tell Them:

- Look at the four piles of papers and quickly choose one from each category that you would be willing to give up first.
- Tear up the four pieces of paper that you selected and discard them in a pile.

Ask and Share:

- How does it feel to have to make a quick decision about what you are willing to give up, especially when everything you wrote down is special and important to you?
- Imagine what it might feel like to be a refugee fleeing a village and having to choose whether you take your Bible OR take your clothes. Consider what it feels like to have to decide whether you run by the school to see if you can find your son OR just flee with the child who is in your arms, knowing that between here and the school you could be killed.

UNKNOWN LOSS

Tell Them:

- Turn the piles of paper over so you cannot see the words.
- Without looking, take one piece of paper from each pile. Tear up the papers and discard them.
- Do not look.
- Sit and wait.

Ask and Share:

- How does it feel to not know what you have lost?
- Imagine sitting in a refugee camp not knowing where your mother is or if your child is alive. Think how you might feel not knowing if your home still stands or if there will be anything to return to if you ever get to go back to your hometown.

LOSS OF CONTROL

Tell Them:

- 🗨️ Keep all piles face down, sit quietly, and ponder your loss.
- 🗨️ Do not look at your papers to see what you have left.

Leader: Walk quietly around the room removing papers from in front of people. Take only a few papers from some people, take many pieces from others, and from a few, do not take any papers at all. You may walk past someone only to return and take papers.

Tell them:

- 🗨️ If you have any remaining papers, turn them over to see what you still have.

Ask and Share:

- 🗨️ How does it feel to have important people and things taken from right in front of you?
- 🗨️ How does it feel to lose more than others?
- 🗨️ How does it feel to not lose while others did?
- 🗨️ Imagine how refugees feel about the lack of control in their situations. In the refugee camps, people have few opportunities to make choices. They may sit for years in a camp waiting for someone else to decide if they get to go to another country, return to their own or keep sitting in the camp. Even when they arrive in a new country, they have little control over where they live or what they might do in their first few days or months. They must rely on a single case manager, or possibly a volunteer, entrusting their lives to a stranger.

Further Discussion:

- 🗨️ How has this activity changed the way you feel about refugees?
- 🗨️ What can you do to be a good friend to refugees?

PRAYER

Take a few moments for silent prayer or group prayer for the refugees and other displaced person struggling throughout the world and in your community.

“The stranger who dwells among you shall be to you as one born among you, and you shall love him as yourself” (Leviticus 19:34).

LESSON 3 FIELD ACTIVITY: LISTEN TO THEIR MOVING STORIES

Interview someone who is a recent refugee or immigrant living in the United States. To find someone, you can check with local ethnic churches, do an Internet search for “refugee resettlement agencies,” or call your local conference or church’s headquarters to get contact information for a refugee church. Say something like, “I would like to have the privilege of meeting a refugee so I can hear and understand his or her story.”

Review these sample interview questions before you visit. You do not need to use them all or follow them exactly. It may be more personal to not have the list of questions in front of you and writing down the answers while you talk.

Keep your words simple for anyone who is still learning the language and may be struggling to understand. If necessary, take a translator with you.

Listen well and show your interest. Know that you are asking that person to share a very personal and perhaps painful story. Pray that you will be able to be a good friend who will listen and respond as God leads.

Write down answers and responses soon after you leave so that you do not forget important details. Staple your notes of the interview to the back of this person’s *Contact Log* in order to reference his or her story in your future interactions.

Sample Interview Questions:

- 🗣️ Would you be willing to share the story of how you came to live in this country?
- 🗣️ Where did you live when you were a child and what was it like?
- 🗣️ How long ago did you come to this country and why did you leave your home?
- 🗣️ Did you live in a refugee camp? If so, what was it like?
- 🗣️ What do you miss from your home country?
- 🗣️ What do you like about living here?
- 🗣️ What is difficult about living in this new country?
- 🗣️ Who of your family members came with you and who are still there?
- 🗣️ What is it like for your family who is still back in your home country?
- 🗣️ What do you think people in this country can do to welcome refugees and immigrants and help them adjust to their new lives in this country?

Ending Your Conversation

You might end with, “Thank you for sharing with me. I am so thankful to hear the story of your courageous journey. I believe that God watched over you. I believe He even helped us meet so I could know you and learn from you. Could I say a prayer to ask God’s blessing on you as you continue to make your home here? Is there anything or anyone in your family that I could pray for?”

You will find that most people in most cultures will welcome you praying for them. Simply ask if it is okay with them if you ask God for a blessing on them and their family.

You might learn in advance or ask them what posture they pray in. Many Muslims pray with their hands extended, palms up, symbolizing that they want to receive God's blessing. They call this *dua* which means a personal prayer rather than the ritual prayer. Many Asians pray with their hands pressed together pointing upwards. Do what you feel comfortable with, seeking to press close to them where you can.

See if you can set up an opportunity to meet again to follow up on this new friendship.

Reflections

1. Write a summary of the person's story, aiming for at least a full page.
2. Write also a paragraph about your own feelings and thoughts from this interview.
3. Write a list of things you think you and your church could do to help refugees and immigrants who have come to your country.

FIELD REPORT #3



Name _____ Date Due _____

Email Address _____ Phone _____

Home Church _____ Team Number _____

COMING CLOSE TO THE HEART OF REFUGEES

1. Who I met, how and where I met them, and what we talked about (begin or update a Contact Log for each person or family and keep the sheets in a binder):

2. How I felt during this activity and what I learned (which strategies were most successful or least successful):

3. What I did in the last week to follow-up with those I met, and what I plan to do in the next week to get to know them better or to meet more people:

4. The friend or family member with whom I shared what I learned and invited to do the same:

5. Someone or something I would like us to be praying about:

6. Things I want to remember or share with my team from the video clips, my completion of study #3 in *My Favorite Missionary*, and my focus on prayers for "Refugees" in *Praying for the World Next Door*.

Tangibly Helping New Arrivals



MISSION OBJECTIVES

- A. I will deepen my understanding of the biblical emphasis on wholistic ministry.
- B. I will research examples of what people and communities are doing to help refugees, immigrants, and international students.
- C. I will do something tangible to help someone from another country who has moved nearby



TEAM CARE AND ACCOUNTABILITY (20 MINUTES)

1. Tell us about your experience interviewing a refugee.
2. What other experiences have you had in following up on your cross-cultural friendships. (Keep using and referring to your *Contact Log*.)
3. What did you learn from study #3 in *My Favorite Missionary* and the video clips?
4. What needs or challenges are you facing that we can pray for?
5. Pray together, especially for each other and the friends from other cultures whom you have met.



PRESENTATION (27:41 MINUTES)

WATCH: *Tangibly Helping New Arrivals*



DISCOVERY AND DISCUSSION (30 MINUTES)

1. How do you feel after watching *Tangibly Helping New Arrivals* and what did you learn?
2. Take time to consider God's way of helping people that includes every part of their lives. **Read Luke 4:16-21.** Which aspects of Jesus' ministry do you think might be especially relevant to immigrants and refugees?
3. **Read Isaiah 58:6-7, 9-10, and 12-13.** What aspects of a person's life does God ask us to help with in these verses?
4. **Read Isaiah 58:8, 11, and 14.** What promises does God give to those who show His love in these tangible ways?
5. If you had just arrived in a new country or a new neighborhood, what would you like people to do that would make you feel warmly welcomed?
6. What challenges do you think recently arrived immigrants and refugees and their children are facing with the new local culture, and how could we help them navigate through the good and bad?
7. The situation for international students is somewhat different. What do you think are some of their needs and how can we help them?
8. How can we create a more mutual exchange that builds towards true friendship rather than making people feel they are charity cases, dependent on others?
9. From what you have seen and learned about people who are helping immigrants, refugees, and international students, what has appealed to you that you might also enjoy doing?

10. What have you learned today and how will you use it this week?

11. What will you do this week to tangibly help an immigrant, refugee, or international student?



TEAM PRAYER (10 MINUTES)

Pray together for the immigrants, refugees, and international students in your area; for God to empower you to help them tangibly and wholistically; and for His goodness to be seen in all the world.

Promises to Claim:

- ✔ *Now thanks be to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and through us diffuses the fragrance of His knowledge in every place. For we are to God the fragrance of Christ among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing (2 Corinthians 2:14-15).*
- ✔ *All the ends of the world shall remember and turn to the Lord, and all the families of the nations shall worship before You. For the kingdom is the Lord's, and He rules over the nations (Psalm 22:27-28).*
- ✔ *Great benefits would come to the cause of God in the regions beyond, if faithful effort were put forth in behalf of the foreigners in the cities of our homeland. Among these men and women are some who, upon accepting the truth, could soon be fitted to labor for their own people in this country and in other countries. Many might return to the places from which they came, in the hope of winning their friends to the truth. They could search out their kinsfolk and neighbors, and communicate to them a knowledge of the third angel's message (White 1925, 200).*



ASSIGNMENTS (5 MINUTES)

1. What will you do this week to follow up on your new friendships with people from other countries? Continue to update your *Contact Log* and make new ones as you make new friendships.

2. Mobilize and Multiply. Share with a friend or family member what you learned about the importance of wholistic ministry and what others are doing to help those who have recently arrived. Encourage him or her to join you as you help someone this week.

3. Find out more about what others are doing to help immigrants, refugees, or international students. Do an Internet search for “refugee resettlement agency” or “international students” for your metro area. Make at least one phone call to talk to someone who helps newly arrived individuals, like a caseworker or director of international students. Ask at least the following two questions and record what you learn in your Field Report #4: (a) What do you do to help them when they have first arrived?; (b) What can volunteers do to help? Then ask yourself, which of these might I like to do? Where do I fit into the work that God wants to do among these people?
4. What will you do this week to follow up on your new friendships with people from other countries? Continue to update your *Contact Log* and make new ones as you make new friendships.
5. Complete study #4 in *My Favorite Missionary* and focus your prayers on “International Students” in *Praying for the World Next Door*.
6. Watch at least two of the following video clips to learn more about how people are helping people who have arrived recently:
 - A. Feel Mrs. Ingrid Slikkers’ passion as she shows how we can foster refugee children.
 - B. Learn how to bring refugees into our school and see them revive.
 - C. Find out the difference we can make in the lives of international students.
 - D. Enter into the joy people from other cultures found as churches welcomed them and trained them.
7. Complete the form: *Field Report #4*.

.....
FIELD REPORT #4
.....



Name _____ Date Due _____

Email Address _____ Phone _____

Home Church _____ Team Number _____

TANGIBLY HELPING NEW ARRIVALS

1. These are the refugee resettlement agencies or schools I researched online and/or called:
2. Here is what I learned about helping refugees:
3. This is what I think God is impressing me to do to help newly arrived people tangibly:
4. These are the people I spent time with during this last week and what I did to help (begin or update a *Contact Log* for each person or family and keep the sheets in a binder):
5. What I plan to do with my contacts from other countries in the next week, including those I just helped:
6. The friend or family member with whom I shared what I learned and invited to do the same:
7. Someone or something I would like us to be praying about:
8. Things I want to remember or share with my team from the video clips, from my completion of study #4 in *My Favorite Missionary*, and from my focus on prayers for "International Students" in *Praying for the World Next Door*.

Being a Spirit-Filled Disciple



MISSION OBJECTIVES

- A. I will deepen my understanding of the impact of discipleship training, conversion, and the Holy Spirit on the ability to witness.
- B. I will experience a time of retreat in order to draw closer to God.



TEAM CARE AND ACCOUNTABILITY (20 MINUTES)

- 1. What did you do to help someone tangibly since we last met?
- 2. What did you learn about helping immigrants, refugees, or international students from the agencies or schools you contacted?
- 3. What other experiences have you had in following up on your cross-cultural friendships. (Keep using and referring to your *Contact Log*.)
- 4. What did you learn from study #4 in *My Favorite Missionary* and the video clips?
- 5. What needs or challenges are you facing that we can pray for?
- 6. Pray together, especially for each other and the friends from other cultures whom you have met.



PRESENTATION (22:19 MINUTES)

WATCH: *Being a Spirit-Filled Disciple*



DISCOVERY AND DISCUSSION (25 MINUTES)

1. How do you feel after watching *Being a Spirit-Filled Disciple* and what did you learn?
2. When you are reaching out to people from other cultures, which aspects of the Holy Spirit, such as the fruit, gifts, and tongues, do you personally feel a need for?
3. Let's explore a little how Peter became a Spirit-filled disciple of Jesus. **Read Mark 1:16-18.** What was Jesus' primary method of training the disciples?
4. Jesus invited Peter to spend time with Him, called him to walk away from things that would distract him, and led him into serving others. Jesus calls us to do the same as His disciples. What specific steps do you think you can take that will help you grow closer to Him, have greater victory, and be a more effective witness?
5. Even after more than three years of learning from the best teacher, Peter was not ready to be a faithful witness under persecution. **Read Luke 22:31-34.** Jesus called him to a deeper conversion. Consider these words: *Let us remember that a Christlike life is the most powerful argument that can be advanced in favor of Christianity, and that a cheap Christian character works more harm in the world than the character of a worldling* (White 1925, 26). *Ten truly converted, willing-minded, unselfish workers can do more in the missionary field than one hundred who confine their efforts to set forms, and preserve mechanical rules, working without a deep love for souls* (ibid., 262).
What do you think it means to be truly converted and how does that change a person's witness?
6. **Read Acts 1:4-5, 8.** After Jesus trained the disciples, and they experienced His love and salvation through the cross, why do you think they still needed the Holy Spirit in order to become effective witnesses to their own people and to the world?

7. Consider these words: *As the disciples waited for the fulfillment of the promise, they humbled their hearts in true repentance and confessed their unbelief... The disciples prayed with intense earnestness for a fitness to meet men and in their daily intercourse to speak words that would lead sinners to Christ. Putting away all differences, all desire for the supremacy, they came close together in Christian fellowship... These days of preparation were days of deep heart searching. The disciples felt their spiritual need and cried to the Lord for the holy unction that was to fit them for the work of soul saving. They did not ask for a blessing for themselves merely. They were weighted with the burden of the salvation of souls. They realized that the gospel was to be carried to the world, and they claimed the power that Christ had promised* (White 1911a, 35–37).

What do you think you and your church need to do in order to receive the Holy Spirit in a way similar to how the early church did?

8. What have you learned today and how will you use it this week?



TEAM PRAYER (10 MINUTES)

Pray that God will bless your retreats with a mighty movement of His Spirit; to grow closer in your relationship with God; to access His love and His power.

Promises to Claim:

- ✔ *Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!* (Psalm 46:10).
- ✔ *Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high* (Luke 24:49).
- ✔ *The humble, simple, persevering prayer of the faithful one will now penetrate heaven as surely as did the prayer of Christ... Christ's example opens before us the path by which we may come to a never-failing source of strength, from which we may draw grace and power to resist the enemy and come off victorious. We find that upon all important occasions He retired to the grove, or to the solitude of the mountains, and offered earnest, persevering prayer to God* (White 1893).



ASSIGNMENTS (5 MINUTES)

1. What do you plan to do to follow up on any of the friendships you have developed? Stay diligent on updating the *Contact Log*. You will find it more and more useful for prayer and follow-up.
2. The disciples were prepared by (1) being disciples of Jesus, (2) experiencing true conversion, and (3) being filled with the Holy Spirit. Which of the following will you immerse yourself in (at least 20 minutes a day) to really grow more?
 - I will begin to study through Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John (circle one) to learn better how to be a disciple of Jesus.
 - I will study the story of the death of Jesus and Romans 1-8 to understand and experience more about true conversion.
 - I will study the book of Acts to understand better what it means to be filled with the Holy Spirit.
 - I will find at least one person who I can meet with weekly in person or by phone to spend time growing in these areas.
 - Other: _____
3. This week take time for a spiritual retreat, either by yourself or with your team. You might spend the Sabbath together at someone's home, the park, or at a camping area. If you cannot spend a whole day, set aside a full afternoon. *Lesson 5 Optional Activity: Ten Areas of the Holy Spirit*, at the end of the lesson, is one resource you could use. Look also at the website revivalandreformation.org for many excellent resources. Visit reachtheworldnextdoor.com under *Pray and Seek Revival* for more studies. Focus on one or more of the three areas in #2 above.
4. Mobilize and Multiply. Share with a friend or family member what you learned about the importance of preparing to witness effectively through discipleship training, a deeper conversion, and relying on the Holy Spirit. Encourage him or her to join you for a retreat to draw closer to God or to study one of the areas under #2 above.
5. Complete study #5 in *My Favorite Missionary* and focus your prayers on "The Persecuted" in *Praying for the World Next Door*.
6. Watch the following video clip:
Pastor Sam Ngala shares inspiration with his adventure in depending on the Holy Spirit.
7. Complete the form: *Field Report #5*.

LESSON 5 OPTIONAL ACTIVITY: TEN AREAS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

We need the Holy Spirit to prepare us for Jesus' coming and to empower us to share the gospel with the world. Acts 2 and the rest of the Bible describe at least ten areas in which the Holy Spirit works in our lives and in the world. Study these texts and search for others. Prayerfully reflect on your own life to see where you need to receive more of the Holy Spirit's power.

1. Conviction. "Omnipresence of the Spirit"

John 16:7-11; John 14:16-18; Psalm 139:7-10, 23-24; John 1:9; Acts 7:51

What is God convicting me to change in my life? Is there something He wants me to do or say?

2. Conversion. "Born of the Spirit"

John 3:5-6; John 7:37-39; Titus 3:4-7; Ezekiel 37:1-14; Romans 8:14-17

Am I a new person in Christ, walking in the joy of forgiveness and in the transforming power of Christ living in me?

3. Relationship with God. "Sword of the Spirit"

Ephesians 6:17; Hebrews 4:12; John 16:13; 1 Peter 1:22-25; 2 Timothy 3:15-17; Romans 8:1-11

Am I spending meaningful time with God every day in Bible study?

Do I have victory through His word?

4. Christian Character. "Fruit of the Spirit"

Galatians 5:22-23; John 15:4-5; 2 Corinthians 3:3-6, 17-18; Ezekiel 36:27; Ephesians 3:16-20

Am I becoming more and more like Jesus, demonstrating the fruit of the Spirit in my relationships with my family, my neighbors, my classmates, and my co-workers?

5. Prayer. "Breath of the Spirit"

Romans 8:26-27; Revelation 8:3-4; 1 Timothy 2:1; Ephesians 6:18; Romans 15:30-31

Am I spending significant time praying for myself, my family, my church, and the lost?

Do I pray with faith expecting miracles from God?

6. Good Works. "Gifts of the Spirit"

Luke 4:18-21; Romans 12:3-8; 1 Corinthians 12:1-11, 28-31; Ephesians 4:7-16; Zechariah 4:6;

Matthew 25:1-13

Am I using my gifts to help the sick, the poor, the sorrowful, and those in bondage to habits or evil spirits?

7. Spoken Witness. "Tongues of the Spirit"

Acts 4:31; Acts 2:1-8; 1 Corinthians 2:2-5; Ephesians 6:18-20; Matthew 10:19-20

Am I telling others the gospel with earnest love and boldness?

Am I frequently sharing my testimony?

8. Community of Believers. "Body of the Spirit"

Ephesians 2:14-18; Ephesians 4:1-6; 1 Corinthians 12:12-27; Ephesians 4:30-32

Am I loving towards the people in my church, forgiving them, encouraging them, and kindly rebuking them when they are wrong?

9. Worship. "Temple of the Spirit"

Ephesians 2:19-22; Ephesians 5:18-20; 1 Corinthians 3:16-17; John 4:23-24; Hebrews 13:15;

1 Peter 2:1-10

Am I praising God in the midst of trials?

Do I regularly worship God with my words, songs, and attitude?

10. Multiplication. "Latter Rain of the Spirit"

Joel 2:23-24, 28-32; Zechariah 10:1; Acts 1:8; Matthew 28:18-20; 2 Timothy 2:2; Revelation 18:1

Am I praying daily for the final outpouring of the Holy Spirit?

Am I leading a small group or discipling someone else to receive more and more of the Holy Spirit?

A revival of true godliness among us is the greatest and most urgent of all our needs. To seek this should be our first work. There must be earnest effort to obtain the blessing of the Lord, not because God is not willing to bestow His blessing upon us, but because we are unprepared to receive it. Our heavenly Father is more willing to give His Holy Spirit to them that ask Him, than are earthly parents to give good gifts to their children. But it is our work, by confession, humiliation, repentance, and earnest prayer, to fulfill the conditions upon which God has promised to grant us His blessing (White 1958, 122).

"If you then, being evil know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!"

"So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you" (Luke 11:13, 9).

- ✔ When you are finished reflecting, share with a friend the ways you want the Holy Spirit to work more powerfully in your life. Pray for each other to receive the Holy Spirit in a greater amount.

.....
FIELD REPORT #5
.....



Name _____ Date Due _____

Email Address _____ Phone _____

Home Church _____ Team Number _____

BEING A SPIRIT-FILLED DISCIPLE

1. Here is what I did for a spiritual retreat:
2. Here is a short summary of what I learned and experienced (include something about being a disciple of Jesus, conversion, and being filled with the Holy Spirit):
3. These are the people I spent time with this last week and what I did to further our relationship (begin or update a *Contact Log* for each person or family and keep the sheets in a binder):
4. What I plan to do in the next week with my friends of other cultures:
5. The friend or family member with whom I shared what I learned and invited to do the same:
6. Someone or something I would like us to be praying about:
7. Things I want to remember or share with my team from the video clips, my completion of study #5 in *My Favorite Missionary*, and my focus on prayers for "The Persecuted" in *Praying for the World Next Door*.

Building Bridges to People of Other Religions



MISSION OBJECTIVES

- A. I will ask effective questions that will help me listen to and understand people's needs, values, and beliefs.
- B. I will draw closer to people of other religions by affirming the areas we have in common.



TEAM CARE AND ACCOUNTABILITY (20 MINUTES)

1. Tell us about your one-day retreat. In what ways do you feel it helped you and what did you learn?
2. What other experiences have you had in following up on your cross-cultural friendships. (Keep using and referring to your *Contact Log*).
3. What did you learn from study #5 in *My Favorite Missionary* and the video clips?
4. What needs or challenges are you facing that we can pray for?
5. Pray together, especially for each other and the friends from other cultures whom you have met.



PRESENTATION (17:06 MINUTES)

WATCH: *Building Bridges to People of Other Religions*. Take notes using the following outline.

1. Four steps for witnessing to people of other religions:
 - STEP #1** (a)_____.
 - STEP #2** Affirm (b)_____.
 - STEP #3** Share (c)_____ through (d)_____.
 - STEP #4** Invite to (e)_____.

2. (a)_____ with the people on every point where you can consistently do so. Let them see that you love their souls, and want to be in (b)_____ with them so far as possible. If the love of Christ is revealed in all your efforts, you will be able to (c)_____ the seed of truth in some hearts; God will water the seed sown, and the truth will spring up and bear fruit to His (d)_____ (White 1946, 140).
3. Areas of the first angel's message that have similarities with other world religions:
4. The term 'Babylon' is derived from 'Babel,' and signifies (a)_____. It is employed in Scripture to designate the various forms of false or apostate (b)_____ (White 1911b, 381).
5. Areas of the second and third angels' messages that have similarities or points of contact with people of other world religions:



DISCOVERY AND DISCUSSION (35 MINUTES)

1. What are your thoughts and feelings after hearing *Building Bridges to People of Other Religions*?
2. The Gospels record Jesus asking over one hundred questions. People like to be asked questions and have someone listen to their answers with true concern and interest. How can you tell from the eyes, posture, and words that someone is really listening (remember it can be different in various cultures)?
3. Listening is the best first step in witnessing because you can learn the person's values, beliefs, and needs. This will enable you to care and share in a relevant way. In groups of two, practice listening well as you ask your partner one or two of these questions. Make sure both of you ask and answer:
 - A. What do you most appreciate of the **values** your parents lived and taught?
 - B. What **beliefs** and practices are especially important to you in your religion?
 - C. What challenges are you facing in your life right now (**needs**)?
4. Individually choose one of the five scenarios below and imagine that you have just asked the three questions above to the person in the scenario. Read the description and write down his or her **values, beliefs, and needs**.
(Make sure that the members of your team choose different scenarios from each other).

SCENARIO #1: ANIMIST TATTOO ARTIST

Teng is Hmong from the mountains of Laos in Southeast Asia working in Oroville, California as a tattoo artist. He often wears strings wrapped around his wrists. He explains to his friends, "We are a very close-knit community. The elders in my tribe put them on me and blessed me. This protects me from bad spirits." He complains about how expensive Hmong weddings and funerals are: "We have to make sure we do all the rituals just right, so we don't have problems with evil spirits. Of course, we also have to make everybody happy with good food and lots of it!" He frequently talks about the movies and television programs that he likes to watch. Most of them deal with magic, witches, and spirits. "These things are real," he says, "But most people think they are just pretend." He has two sons he loves very much. "I can't imagine if anything bad ever happened to them," he tells you. "Their school is not safe. I worry about them whenever they are out of my sight."

Values: _____

Beliefs: _____

Needs: _____

SCENARIO #2: BUDDHIST MONK

In the mall in Adelaide, Australia every week there is a Buddhist monk named Suphaap. He asks for donations to help his monastery pass on the dharma, or words of truth. He tells people that his beliefs are very simple. Life is full of suffering and suffering comes because we want things. We desire what is bad, and it messes up our lives. We want what is good, but nothing lasts forever. That's why we suffer. Suphaap has done all he could to get rid of his desires, bad and good. He gave away all his possessions, chose to be single, and stopped eating each day by noon. He spends his time doing good works and meditating on what he calls the "true reality." This, he tells you, is the way to find peace. Suphaap is overweight and does not feel very good. In fact, he has diabetes and has not been able to lose weight because of all the delicious meals people feed him as part of earning merit for themselves. He really wants to become a vegetarian, but he finds it too difficult.

Values: _____

Beliefs: _____

Needs: _____

SCENARIO #3: HINDU APARTMENT MANAGER

Aarushi immigrated years ago to England from northeast India. She manages the community programs for a chain of apartment complexes. She loves vegetarian cooking shows and she says she does not eat meat because she believes in reincarnation and does not want to destroy any life and have it affect her with bad karma in a future life. At her house, she has a shrine that includes an image of a god that looks like a mythical elephant. Aarushi worships this Hindu god, Ganesh, hoping she will be blessed enough to own her own apartment complex someday. Prayer is an important part of her life, and she asks for help before she does any new business venture. She knows that the picture of Ganesh is just a symbol of his power and his desire to bless those devoted to him. She says that although there are many gods in India, they really are all one. In fact, everything is one, and our duty is to enter into that harmony. Though she is very busy, it is still important to her to go to the temple and offer incense and various gifts, seeking blessing and protection. Aarushi admits, "In my busyness I am often impatient with my tenants. They are so careless with the apartments that I have several times lost my temper and then lost my customers. I have to find a way to cool down my heart."

Values: _____

Beliefs: _____

Needs: _____

SCENARIO #4: JEWISH TOURIST

Azarel is a Jewish tourist visiting Yosemite National Park in California. He is quite devout in his religious practice and is headed out of the park on Friday to find a city where there is a synagogue so that he can enjoy the Sabbath. He has been having a hard time finding places to eat because he must have kosher food. Azarel is in the United States visiting his children and grandchildren, whom he loves very much. He is disturbed that while most of his family members still follow the traditions they grew up with, one of his sons no longer believes in God. He and his son have not spoken for six years because of a serious argument. "Our traditions are important," he says. "Our laws are essential, but it is the knowledge of Adonai, the Creator God, that matters most." Azarel mentions his concerns about the hostility between Jews and Muslims and wishes that everyone could just live in peace. "Maybe that's why my son doesn't believe anymore," he wonders sadly. "There is too much fighting between religions, but what can we do?"

Values: _____

Beliefs: _____

Needs: _____

SCENARIO #5: MUSLIM COUPLE

Mudaser and M'saom are a Muslim couple living in Vancouver, British Columbia. She always wears a head covering. He often also dresses in a traditional outfit. When he talks about his religion he emphasizes that he believes in one God who created everything and is the only true God. He prays five times a day and fasts at Ramadan. He does not eat pig or drink alcohol. Mudaser says, "We are living in the time of the end and everyone should listen to what the prophet Mohammad taught about being prepared for the last days. I think everyone should live their life surrendered to this one true God." Mudaser and M'saom always offer tea to their guests and usually convince them to stay for a wonderful lunch of flat bread and curry. One day M'saom confides, "I have not told almost anyone else, but my husband lost his job and our credit cards are maxed out. I don't know how we are going to pay the rent."

Values: _____

Beliefs: _____

Needs: _____

5. After listening to people, we want to communicate warm care. What we say can open or shut the door to more conversations. Why does affirming our similarities open the door for the gospel?

6. While you may or may not feel comfortable affirming anything about someone’s religion, there are likely some important values that they hold which you can affirm. Similarities draw us together and make our relationships strong enough to discuss differences. Read these examples:
- A. I love how your culture **values** being at peace with everyone.
 - B. I also **believe** there are things we cannot see that are real.
 - C. I too struggle to forgive my enemies (**need**).

Write similar sentences that you could use to respond to the person in the scenario you chose, affirming a value, a belief, and a need.

YOUR SCENARIO:

A. _____

B. _____

C. _____

7. Share in twos or with your group about the person in your scenario and how you would affirm what you have in common.
8. What have you learned today and how will you use it this week?



TEAM PRAYER (10 MINUTES)

Pray together for God to give you divine appointments with people He is trying to reach; for Him to put a burden on your heart if there is a specific religious group He wants you to reach out to.

PROMISES TO CLAIM:

- ✔ *Those who sow in tears shall reap in joy. He who continually goes forth weeping, bearing seed for sowing, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him (Psalm 126:5-6).*
- ✔ *Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think of anything as being from ourselves, but our sufficiency is from God (2 Corinthians 3:5).*

- ✔ *When we give ourselves wholly to God and in our work follow His directions, He makes Himself responsible for its accomplishment. He would not have us conjecture as to the success of our honest endeavors. Not once should we even think of failure. We are to cooperate with One who knows no failure (White 1900, 363).*
- ✔ *Through much prayer you must labor for souls, for this is the only method by which you can reach hearts. It is not your work, but the work of Christ who is by your side, that impresses hearts (White 1946, 342).*



ASSIGNMENTS (5 MINUTES)

1. What do you plan to do to follow up on any of the friendships you have developed? Stay diligent on updating the *Contact Log*. You will find it more and more useful for prayer and follow-up.

2. Visit the place of worship of another religion like a temple, synagogue or mosque. Fill out *Lesson 6 Field Activity: Worship and Beliefs* and be ready to share your experience with your team.
3. Mobilize and Multiply. Share with a friend or family member what you learned about listening and affirming areas that we have in common with people of other religions. Encourage him or her to join you as you visit a temple, synagogue or mosque.
4. Complete study #6 in *My Favorite Missionary* and focus your prayers on people of other "World Religions" in *Praying for the World Next Door*.
5. Watch at least one of the following video clips:
 - A. Elder Bryan Gallant shares the power of the gift of time; Mr. Luran Merginio tells about his experience in refugee ministry.
 - B. Elder Stephen Po tells what it was like to be a young refugee moving to America and how to help refugees thrive
6. Complete the form: *Field Report #6*.

LESSON 6 FIELD ACTIVITY: WORSHIP AND BELIEFS

Choose a religion that you would like to know more about. It needs to be one that has a place of worship near you. Preferably it should be the religion of an international with whom you are becoming friends. You can ask him or her if you could visit and observe during their time of worship. You can also find places on the Internet by searching under your city or town for “places of worship,” and “Buddhist,” etc. You may be able to have someone meet you and help you understand more if you call in advance to ask about visiting.

Ask to be able to interview someone about the religion and worship practices. Then seek for answers to questions such as the following. Write at least a two-page summary of what you learned.

OBSERVATIONS

1. The name of the place and the type of religion:
2. Describe the outside and inside of the worship place:
3. What did you observe people doing?
4. Of the things that were said, what did you understand?
5. What similarities did you see or hear to your own beliefs and style of worship?
6. What differences did you see or hear to your own beliefs and style of worship?
7. Describe your overall reaction, feelings and thoughts about this experience.

INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What beliefs and practices are especially important to you in your religion?
2. What are the most important things that anybody who says they are a part of your religion should know and do?
3. How did your religion start?
4. Are there any important holy places in your religion and where are they?
5. What important holidays or ceremonies does your religion have?
6. What are the scriptures like and do people read them very much? (Do they understand what they read or chant?)
7. Do you believe in a God, gods, angels, ghosts, or spirits? Please tell me about it.
8. What do you think happens when people die?
9. What do you think people can do to help themselves have a better future life?

.....
FIELD REPORT #6
.....



Name _____ Date Due _____

Email Address _____ Phone _____

Home Church _____ Team Number _____

BUILDING BRIDGES TO PEOPLE OF OTHER RELIGIONS

1. These are the people I spent time with this last week and what I did with them (begin or update a *Contact Log* for each person or family and keep the sheets in a binder):

2. What I plan to do in the next week with my cross-cultural friends:

3. The friend or family member with whom I shared what I learned and invited to do the same:

4. Someone or something I would like us to be praying about:

5. Things I want to remember or share with my team from the video clips, my completion of study #6 in *My Favorite Missionary*, and my focus on prayers for people of other "World Religions" in *Praying for the World Next Door*.

Sharing Life-Changing Stories and Experiences



MISSION OBJECTIVES

- A. I will share my testimony and other faith-building stories with people who are not Christians.
- B. I will invite someone of another religion to experience God's love, power, and teaching through various activities, prayers, studies, etc. to help him or her grow. .



TEAM CARE AND ACCOUNTABILITY (20 MINUTES)

1. Tell us about your experience visiting a place of worship and interviewing someone of another religion.
2. Tell us about any experiences you have had in following up on your international contacts. (Keep using and referring to your *Contact Log*).
3. What did you learn from study #6 in *My Favorite Missionary*?
4. What needs or challenges are you facing that we can pray for?
5. Pray together, especially for each other and the friends from other cultures whom you have met.



PRESENTATION (12:58 MINUTES)

WATCH: *Sharing Life-Changing Testimonies and Experiences*. Take notes using the following outline.

1. Four steps for witnessing to people of other religions:

STEP #1 (a)_____.

STEP #2 Affirm (b)_____.

STEP #3 Share (c)_____ through (d)_____.

STEP #4 Invite to (e)_____.

2. *But without a _____ He did not speak to them (Mark 4:33-34).*
3. *Go home to your (a) _____ and tell them what (b) _____
(c) _____ the Lord has done for you, and how He has had
(d) _____ on you (Mark 5:19).*
4. *Our (a) _____ of His faithfulness is Heaven's chosen agency for revealing Christ to the world. We are to acknowledge His grace as made known through the holy men of old; but that which will be most (b) _____ is the (c) _____ of our own experience.... These precious acknowledgments to the praise of the glory of His grace, when supported by a Christ-like life, have an (d) _____ power that works for the salvation of souls (White 1898, 347).*
5. *The secret of our success and power will be found in making (a) _____ (b) _____ appeals to those who are interested, having unwavering (c) _____ upon the Most High (White 1892).*



DISCOVERY AND DISCUSSION (40 MINUTES)

1. The third step in witnessing (see above) is *Share Differences through Stories*. Like the demoniac who simply told what God had done for him, we can impact many as we share our testimonies of His love and power in our lives.

In groups of two, share a short story from your own life. These questions may help you think of something:

- A. What do you feel is the most important or special thing that God has done for you?
 - B. How has reading the Bible helped your health, your family, your finances, or some other area of your life?
2. Go back to the scenarios in the previous lesson. Review the one you chose, reflecting especially on his or her needs. Think of a testimony you have or someone else's story that you think would help this person understand the truth in a way that is very relevant to him or her. Write it below.

The Need from the Scenario: _____

Short Description of Your Story: _____

3. Tell the story to your partner. Try to talk to him or her as if your partner is the person in the scenario.

4. The fourth step in witnessing is *Invite to Experience*. Every bit of God's truth is helpful. Biblical doctrines and beliefs should be shared not just in sermons and Bible studies, but also in everyday experiences. It is our privilege to give our international friends an opportunity to experience the various blessings from God. This can be done in small steps that lead to a full decision for Christ.

Read the following examples of inviting someone to try something with the belief in parentheses:

- A. *"May I pray for your financial situation?"* (God's love and power; stewardship)
- B. *"Every morning I go jogging and then fix myself a delicious fruit smoothie. Would you like to go with me tomorrow?"* (Healthful living)
- C. *"You said you are really struggling with impatience. I have this powerful scripture that I carry in my pocket and read every time I'm frustrated with someone. Would you like to try it?"* (The Word of God; victory)
- D. *"We're going to the park this Saturday afternoon to spend time as a family. Would you like to join us and experience a special stress-reliever we call 'Sabbath Rest?'"* (The Sabbath)
- E. *"Before you go to bed, ask God to protect you and your family from anything dangerous, including spirits and see if that helps you go to sleep like it's helped me."* (The Great Controversy)

Which one of these would match the need of the person in your scenario? Write it here and/or write your own sentence for a belief you think would be helpful:

5. **Read Ephesians 6:13-19.** What do you find in this passage that can help you as you share biblical truths with people of other religions?
6. What have you learned today and how will you use it this week?



TEAM PRAYER (10 MINUTES)

Pray together for the internationals you are trying to reach believing that God will work miracles in their behalf; ask God for both boldness and loving tact; for the people to understand and respond to your testimonies and invitations.

Promises to Claim:

- ✔ *Among the gods there is none like You, O Lord; nor are there any works like Your works. All nations whom You have made shall come and worship before You, O Lord, and shall glorify Your name. For You are great, and do wondrous things; You alone are God (Psalm 86:8-10).*
- ✔ *Call to Me and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know (Jeremiah 33:3).*

- ✔ *And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness (Acts 4:31).*
- ✔ *It is said that at one time an infidel came to argue the question of his unbelief with Mr. Moody. The evangelist said to the unbeliever, "Let us pray before we talk of these matters;" and they bowed down, and while Mr. Moody prayed, God changed the man's heart. It was God that wrought where argument would have failed. Let us work upon this plan, and pray for one another, bringing one another right into the presence of God by living faith. The Lord knows all the thoughts and feelings of the heart; and how easily He can melt us, how His spirit, like a fire, can subdue the flinty heart, and, like a hammer, can break the rock into pieces! (White 1888).*



ASSIGNMENTS (5 MINUTES)

1. What do you plan to do to follow up on any of the friendships you have developed? Stay diligent on updating the *Contact Log*. You will find it more and more useful for prayer and follow-up.
2. Use the four steps to share your faith with at least one of your friends from another culture, using and completing *Field Report #7*.
3. Begin to fill out *Lesson 7 Field Activity: Collection of Stories and Experiences*, adding at least one item to each box. Keep it handy so you can continue to add more to it and use it in your witnessing opportunities.
4. Mobilize and Multiply. Share with a friend or family member what you learned about sharing stories and inviting people to experience something new. Encourage him or her to do this with someone who is not a Christian this week.
5. Complete study #7 in *My Favorite Missionary* and focus your prayers on those who are "Muslims" in *Praying for the World Next Door*.
6. Watch the following video clips:
Elder Dan Serns describes how to share ones testimony effectively; Elder Dean Coridan shows the power of prayer in dealing with ghosts; Ms. Anna Coridan challenges to seek God's courage to witness
7. Complete the form: *Field Report #7*.

LESSON 7 FIELD ACTIVITY: COLLECTION OF STORIES AND EXPERIENCES

Here is one way to keep fresh in your mind what God has done for you or others in a way you can readily access in order to share with others. Consider buying a notebook or journal, or choose a place on your computer or phone to write down your stories, Bible stories, and other people’s stories. Use these sheets or divide your notebook into the areas listed below that summarize topics highly important to most people. Add more Bible promises and counsel for each area so that you have something you can use to effectively invite people to “taste and see that the Lord is good” (Psalm 34:8).

1. HEALTH PROBLEMS

| Stories | Promises | Bible Counsel |
|---------|---------------|---------------------|
| | Psalm 103:1-5 | 1 Corinthians 10:31 |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

2. WORRIES, FEARS, OR STRESS

| Stories | Promises | Bible Counsel |
|---------|-------------------|---------------|
| | Philippians 3:6-7 | Isaiah 26:3-4 |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

3. HOPES AND DREAMS FOR THE FUTURE

| Stories | Promises | Bible Counsel |
|---------|-------------------|----------------|
| | Jeremiah 29:11-13 | Proverbs 3:5-6 |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

4. BAD HABITS

| Stories | Promises | Bible Counsel |
|----------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| | 1 Corinthians 10:13 | James 4:6-10 |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

5. FINANCIAL PROBLEMS

| Stories | Promises | Bible Counsel |
|----------------|------------------|----------------------|
| | Philippians 4:19 | Malachi 3:10 |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

6. FAMILY MEMBERS AND RELATIONSHIP PROBLEMS

| Stories | Promises | Bible Counsel |
|----------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| | Proverbs 22:6 | Ephesians 5:28 |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

7. SPIRITUALISTIC PRACTICES AND FEARS

| Stories | Promises | Bible Counsel |
|---------|---------------|---------------|
| | Mark 16:16-17 | 1 John 4:4 |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

8. GRIEF

| Stories | Promises | Bible Counsel |
|---------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| | 2 Corinthians 1:3-5 | 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

FIELD REPORT #7



Name _____ Date Due _____

Email Address _____ Phone _____

Home Church _____ Team Number _____

SHARING LIFE-CHANGING STORIES AND EXPERIENCES

1. My experience in using the four steps to witness:
 - A. What I learned as I listened:
 - B. What I was able to affirm that was similar in our values, beliefs, and needs:
 - C. What stories or testimonies I shared:
 - D. What I invited them to experience and how they responded:
2. These are the people I spent time with this last week and what I did with them (begin or update a *Contact Log*):
3. What I plan to do in the next week with my contacts from other cultures:
4. The friend or family member with whom I shared what I learned and invited to do the same:
5. Someone or something I would like us to be praying about:
6. Things I want to remember or share with my team from the video clips, my completion of study #7 in *My Favorite Missionary*, and my focus on prayers for those who are "Muslims" in *Praying for the World Next Door*.

Leading Up, Step-by-Step



MISSION OBJECTIVES

- A. I will deepen my understanding of Jesus' death and resurrection as it relates to people of various backgrounds and world religions.
- B. I will share the stories of Jesus, especially His death and resurrection, with my friends from other cultures and invite them to experience salvation.
- C. I will discover various Bible study approaches that have been prepared for the religious backgrounds of my friends and I will invite them to learn with me.



TEAM CARE AND ACCOUNTABILITY (20 MINUTES)

1. Tell us who you shared with, using the four-step method, and how it went.
2. Show your *Lesson 7 Field Activity: Collection of Stories and Experiences*
3. What other experiences have you had in following up on your international contacts. (Keep using and referring to your *Contact Log*).
4. What did you learn from study #7 in *My Favorite Missionary* and the video clips?
5. What needs or challenges are you facing that we can pray for?
6. Pray together, especially for each other and the friends from other cultures whom you have met.



PRESENTATION (20:40 MINUTES)

WATCH: *Leading Up, Step-by-Step.*



DISCOVERY AND DISCUSSION (35 MINUTES)

1. Which aspect of the cross and Jesus' salvation do you find especially meaningful?
2. As you consider sharing the story of Jesus' death with the internationals that you know, which part(s) do you think would be most meaningful or the best place to focus on and why? Here are some examples:
 - A. Jesus died to set us free from sin and selfishness.
 - B. Jesus demonstrated God's love so that we might know His true character.
 - C. Jesus entered our suffering so that we might know He understands all that we go through.
 - D. Jesus died in order to repair our relationships and reconcile us with our enemies.
 - E. Jesus died to forgive our sins and give us eternal life.
 - F. Jesus overcame all the evil spirits at the cross and has power over them now.
3. **Read John 16:12-14.** The Holy Spirit helps people advance in their understanding about Jesus and other truths. In what ways do you think the disciples grew in their belief about Jesus from when they first met Him to later after He went to heaven?
4. People grow in their understanding of truth through the working of the Holy Spirit along with more Bible study, clearer explanations, and personal experiences. Consider the internationals that you now know and what they presently believe. Use the following three concepts to practice tracing what steps remain to bring them to a clearer understanding of each. Remember that they may have a negative starting point or may already be on a positive but incomplete step.

Write the names of your international friends on the stair steps where you think they might be in each of these concepts:

A. Concepts about Jesus

Jesus—Eternal God

Jesus—Savior from Sin

Jesus—a Miracle Worker

Jesus—a Compassionate Server

Jesus—a Good Teacher/Prophet

Potential Negative Starting Points: *Jesus—a blasphemer (Judaism), a foreign god, one way among many (Hindu), younger and thus less than Buddha (Buddhist), never existed, etc.*

B. Concepts about God

God—All of these qualities, God in three persons yet one

God—a Personal Savior, Eternal, All-knowing, All-Powerful

God—a Source of Miracles and Help

God—a Power for Justice and Judgment

Potential Negative Starting Points: *God—Unknowable (Buddhist), one among many (Hindu), nonexistent (secular), unconcerned (deist), cruel, etc.*

C. Concepts about the Bible

Bible—the Authoritative Word of God

Bible—Words of Life-Changing Power

Bible—Helpful Instruction for Life

Potential Negative Starting Points: *Bible—One moral book among others (Eastern religions), corrupted scriptures (Muslim), book of fables, outdated and irrelevant (secular)*

5. Share with your team where you placed people and what you think could help them move up to the next steps. Remember you can do this for any type of belief or doctrine. Remember also that God leads different people in different ways.
6. **Read 1 Corinthians 2:2-5, 10-12.** How do these verses encourage you as you face the challenging task of leading your friends up step-by-step?
7. What have you learned today and how will you use it this week?



TEAM PRAYER (10 MINUTES)

Pray together for a deeper understanding of the cross and a passion to share it with the world; for hearts to open to understand what Jesus has done for them; for you to be led to those who are open.

Promises to Claim:

- ✔ *And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all peoples to Myself (John 12:32).*
- ✔ *And I will pour on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the Spirit of grace and supplication; then they will look on Me whom they pierced. Yes, they will mourn for Him as one mourns for his only son, and grieve for Him as one grieves for a firstborn (Zechariah 12:10).*
- ✔ *You are worthy to take the scroll, and to open its seals; for You were slain, and have redeemed us to God by Your blood out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation (Revelation 5:9).*
- ✔ *After the descent of the Holy Spirit, the disciples were so filled with love for Him and for those for whom He died, that hearts were melted by the words they spoke and the prayers they offered. They spoke in the power of the Spirit; and under the influence of that power, thousands were converted (White 1911a, 22).*



ASSIGNMENTS (5 MINUTES)

1. What do you plan to do to follow up on any of the friendships you have developed? Stay diligent on updating the *Contact Log*. You will find it more and more useful for prayer and follow-up.
2. Pray for and look for an opportunity to tell the story of Jesus' death, matching some aspect of its meaning to a need in someone's life. If it does not seem the right timing for this story, seek to share another Bible story that will move someone up in their knowledge and experience of some truth.

If the person has sufficient understanding, share with him or her how to receive Jesus as Savior (See *Lesson 8: Receiving Salvation* at the end of the lesson).

3. Visit reachtheworldnextdoor.com under "Witness to Other Religions" to explore various websites for training resources, specific Bible studies, and other resources that are made especially for various world religions. Look for what will be most useful to use now or soon with your international friends. Some of the literature is also available at mylanguagemylife.com.
4. Mobilize and Multiply. Share with a friend or family member what you learned about the various aspects of Jesus' death and leading people step-by-step to further understanding. Encourage him or her to share the beauty of Jesus' death and resurrection with someone this week.
5. Complete study #8 in *My Favorite Missionary* and focus your prayers on those who are "Jewish" in *Praying for the World Next Door*.
6. Watch or listen to the following video clips:
See how the right literature helps people understand; learn from Ms. Shirley Finneman's care for refugees.
7. Complete the form: *Field Report #8*

LESSON 8: RECEIVING SALVATION

How do we lead someone to receive Jesus as his or her personal Savior? The Bible gives us some specific examples. After Peter told the story of Jesus' death and resurrection, through the power of the Holy Spirit, the people "were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, 'Men and brethren, what shall we do?' Then Peter said to them, 'Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit'" (Acts 2:37-38).

Shortly after this, Peter said, "Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out" (Acts 3:19). Later, after Philip "preached Jesus to him," the Ethiopian treasurer asked Philip, "'See, here is water. What hinders me from being baptized?' Then Philip said, 'If you believe with all your heart, you may.' And he answered and said, 'I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God'" (Acts 8:35-37). The Philippian jailer asked Paul and Silas, "'What must I do to be saved?' So they said, 'Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household'" (Acts 16:30-31).

These texts and others make it clear that salvation comes through hearing and believing in Jesus' life, death, and resurrection, repenting (turning) from sin, and being converted (made new).

Share enough about God and Jesus specifically with your friend until the individual knows and understands God's deep love and how Jesus carried our sins to forgive us and set us free. The goodness of God will lead your friend to repent (Romans 2:4) as the Holy Spirit convicts of "sin, righteousness, and judgment" (John 16:8). True repentance is a gift from God (Acts 5:31) and will lead him or her to a determined turning away from sin (2 Corinthians 7:10-11) and a confession of sin and faith in Christ (1 John 1:9; Romans 10:9-13). God's mercy through Jesus then provides forgiveness and cleansing, a new heart created by God (Ezekiel 36:25-26; 2 Corinthians 5:21).

When you believe your friend understands and is experiencing these things, help him or her to pray something like the following (Psalm 51 is excellent as well):

***Dear loving and merciful God,** Please forgive me for my sins. Specifically I want to tell You I am sorry for _____ (tell God about specific actions, words, thoughts, attitudes, and the core selfishness that controls our lives).*

By Your gift of repentance, I turn from these sins and choose to have You break their power on my life through Jesus' death on the cross and His resurrection and intercession.

Forgive my sins and wash me clean. Give me a new heart and come live in me through the Holy Spirit. In place of those sins, give me the opposite good qualities.

I thank You for forgiving me and I receive Your forgiveness and a new heart. In Jesus' loving and mighty name, amen.

Follow up with your friend as he or she faces temptations and trials. Help him or her continue to experience God's saving love, forgiveness, and power (1 John 2:1-2). Partner with others in your church to prepare your friend for baptism.

FIELD REPORT #8



Name _____ Date Due _____

Email Address _____ Phone _____

Home Church _____ Team Number _____

LEADING UP, STEP-BY-STEP

1. Here is my experience this last week in sharing the story of Jesus' death, including whom I told it to, their religious background, and what I emphasized.
2. What I learned from the experience:
3. Here is a list of pamphlets, Bible study sets, training materials, and other resources that I think will be helpful to the friends of other cultures that I am working with:
4. Other people I spent time with and what we did together (begin or update a *Contact Log* for each person or family and keep the sheets in a binder):
5. What I plan to do this next week with my international contacts:
6. The friend or family member with whom I shared what I learned and invited to do the same:
7. Someone or something I would like us to be praying about:
8. Things I want to remember or share with my team from the video clips, my completion of study #8 in *My Favorite Missionary*, and my focus on prayers for those who are "Jewish" in *Praying for the World Next Door*.

Making Disciples Like Jesus



MISSION OBJECTIVES

- A. I will deepen my understanding of what it means to be a disciple and Jesus' method of making disciples.
- B. I will make a plan of discipleship and follow it for my friends from other cultures who are responding to the good news I have been sharing.



TEAM CARE AND ACCOUNTABILITY (20 MINUTES)

- 1. Tell us with whom you shared the story of Jesus' death or anything else you did to help someone move up a step in knowing about God, Jesus, the Bible, etc.
- 2. What Bible studies or other resources did you find that you think will be useful in sharing with the people you are helping?
- 3. What other experiences have you had in following up on your international contacts. (Keep updating and referring to your *Contact Log*).
- 4. What did you learn from study #8 in *My Favorite Missionary* and the video clips?
- 5. What needs or challenges are you facing that we can pray for?
- 6. Pray together, especially for each other and the friends from other cultures whom you have met.



PRESENTATION (19:30 MINUTES)

WATCH: *Making Disciples Like Jesus**

*For details of the numbers in the presentation look at *Lesson 9 Discovery Footnote: Disciple Multiplication Numbers* at the end of the lesson.



DISCOVERY AND DISCUSSION (35 MINUTES)

1. Based on the presentation and your own previous learning, what is a disciple of Jesus? Share any texts that are especially meaningful to you.
2. **Reread Matthew 28:16-20.** What does this important passage teach about Jesus' method for making disciples?
3. **Read Matthew 4:17-5:2.** How does this passage demonstrate or add to what you have already said about Jesus' way of making disciples?
4. **Read 2 Timothy 2:2.** What capability has God given you that you want to "disciple" others to be able to do as well and even help them pass on to others?
5. **Read 1 Thessalonians 2:7-8, 10-12.** Discipling, like parenting, takes a committed, godly love. Consider carefully the people in your life including your family, your church, your workplace, your neighborhood, and those you have been making friends with from other cultures and religions. Which of those individuals do you believe God especially wants you to devotedly help be a disciple of Jesus?
6. Take a few minutes to individually reflect on one of the persons you chose in number 5 above. Write what you think you can do to disciple that person. Some of the areas may not apply yet, but you can still think about what you will do in the future as he or she grows. (You can study the Bible verses another time, considering how you yourself can become a more devoted disciple of Jesus.)
 - A. *Vine-and-branch closeness and dependence on Jesus* (John 15:1-16; Mark 3:13-14). What can I do to help my friend spend meaningful, impactful time with Jesus in Bible study, prayer, and heartfelt worship?
 - B. *Love Jesus more than anyone else* (Luke 14:26; Matthew 10:37). What can I do to help my friend respect and listen to Jesus more than any friend or family member?

- C. *Love Jesus more than any desire* (Luke 14:27; Matthew 16:24-27). How can I help my friend value God's commandments and way of living more than any desire, including in areas like relationships, entertainment, food, drink, etc.?
 - D. *Love Jesus through suffering, even to death* (Matthew 10: 24-25; Luke 14:26-27). How can I help my friend be courageous through trials, becoming more humble, trusting, and thankful?
 - E. *Love Jesus more than any possession* (Luke 14:33; Matthew 19:16-30). How can I help my friend enjoy being generous with her time and money for those in need rather than being wasteful and spending primarily on herself?
 - F. *Obey Jesus' teaching through the power of His creative word* (John 8:31-36). How can I help my friend have victory over any bad habits or failures? What Bible promise might really help?
 - G. *Love people like Jesus did* (John 13:34-35; Luke 6:40). How can I help my friend forgive anyone s/he's upset with and care for family members, church members, and others like Jesus would?
 - H. *Tell God's stories* (Matthew 13:52; Mark 3:14). How can I help my friend share personal experiences/testimonies and tell God's stories effectively?
 - I. *Set people free from sicknesses and Satan's power* (Mark 3:15, Mark 16:17-18). How can I help my friend do tangible things to serve others?
 - J. *Make disciples of all the nations* (Matthew 28:18-20). How can I help my friend make disciples of Jesus as I have done for him?
7. Discuss together some of your plans for making disciples of your international friends. Especially consider how Jesus' great commission in Matthew 28:18-20 calls you to go and serve while working for the deep conversion and obedience of those disciples.
 8. What have you learned today and how will you use it this week?



TEAM PRAYER (10 MINUTES)

Pray together to be the kind of disciples we have been studying about; that you will be effective in helping your international friends become true disciples of Jesus.

Promises to Claim:

- ✔ *For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, for all patience and longsuffering with joy (Colossians 1:9-11).*
- ✔ *Even the captives of the mighty shall be taken away, and the prey of the terrible be delivered; for I will contend with him who contends with you, and I will save your children (Isaiah 49:25).*
- ✔ *The mother of Augustine prayed for her son's conversion. She saw no evidence that the Spirit of God was impressing his heart, but she was not discouraged. She laid her finger upon the texts, presenting before God His own words, and pleaded as only a mother can. Her deep humiliation, her earnest importunities, her unwavering faith, prevailed, and the Lord gave her the desire of her heart. Today He is just as ready to listen to the petitions of His people. His 'hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither His ear heavy, that it cannot hear;' and if Christian parents seek Him earnestly, He will fill their mouths with arguments, and for His name's sake will work mightily in their behalf in the conversion of their children (White 1889, 322).*



ASSIGNMENTS (5 MINUTES)

1. What do you plan to do to follow up on any of the friendships you have developed? Use the *Disciple Log* to keep track of important areas of growth. You can now use this to replace the *Contact Log* or staple them together and use both.
2. Spend more time prayerfully going over the discipleship texts under number 6 above in order to make a plan for further discipling the people you have been witnessing to. Do something specific for the individual(s) you selected to disciple. Use the *Disciple Log* to keep track of important areas of growth. You can now use this to replace the *Contact Log* or staple them together and use both.
3. Mobilize and Multiply. Share with a friend or family member what you learned about being a disciple and making disciples. Encourage him or her to choose someone who is eager to grow and help that person advance in the ability to study the Bible, pray, witness, and other areas of discipleship.
4. Complete study #9 in *My Favorite Missionary* and focus your prayers on those who are "Hindu" in *Praying for the World Next Door*.
5. Watch the following video clips:
Pastor Saeng Saengthip tells how being a disciple almost cost him his family; see how God uses different links in the chain to complete disciple-making beginning with Judy Aitken.
6. Complete the form: *Field Report #9*

LESSON 9 DISCOVERY FOOTNOTE: DISCIPLE MULTIPLICATION NUMBERS

If you led two people to God in one year and kept doing this for thirty years: $1 \times 2 \times 30 = 60$ people. That is better than many Christians do, but...if you led two people to God in one year and helped them become real disciples of Jesus so that they led two more people to God each year and then helped them be disciples of Jesus, until each also led two people to God and each kept it up during those same thirty years:

1. $1 \times 2 = 2$
2. $1 + 2 = 3 \times 2 = 6$
3. $6 + 3 = 9 \times 2 = 18$
4. $18 + 9 = 27 \times 2 = 54$
5. $54 + 27 = 81 \times 2 = 162$
6. $162 + 81 = 243 \times 2 = 486$
7. $486 + 243 = 729 \times 2 = 1,458$
8. $1,458 + 729 = 2,187 \times 2 = 4,374$
9. $4,374 + 2,187 = 6,561 \times 2 = 13,122$
10. $13,122 + 6,561 = 19,683 \times 2 = 39,366$
11. $39,366 + 19,683 = 59,049 \times 2 = 118,098$
12. $118,098 + 59,049 = 177,147 \times 2 = 354,294$
13. $354,294 + 177,147 = 531,441 \times 2 = 1,062,882$
14. $1,062,882 + 531,441 = 1,594,323 \times 2 = 3,188,646$
15. $3,188,646 + 1,594,323 = 4,782,969 \times 2 = 9,565,938$
16. $9,565,938 + 4,782,969 = 14,348,907 \times 2 = 28,697,814$
17. $28,697,814 + 14,348,907 = 43,046,721 \times 2 = 86,093,442$
18. $86,093,442 + 43,046,721 = 129,140,163 \times 2 = 258,280,326$
19. $258,280,326 + 129,140,163 = 387,420,489 \times 2 = 774,840,978$
20. $774,840,978 + 387,420,489 = 1,162,261,467 \times 2 = 2,324,522,934$
21. $2,324,522,934 + 1,162,261,467 = 3,486,784,401 \times 2 = 6,973,568,802$
22. Past the world's population! That's the power of multiplication. Don't just share the gospel; go make multiplying disciples!

And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men [women] who will be able to teach others also (2 Timothy 2:2).

However small your talent, God has a place for it. That one talent, wisely used, will accomplish its appointed work. By faithfulness in little duties, we are to work on the plan of addition, and God will work for us on the plan of multiplication. These littles will become the most precious influences in His work (White 1900, 360).

Were every one of you a living missionary, the message for this time would speedily be proclaimed in all countries, to every people and nation and tongue (White 1925, 9).

FIELD REPORT #9



Name _____ Date Due _____

Email Address _____ Phone _____

Home Church _____ Team Number _____

MAKING DISCIPLES LIKE JESUS

1. Here is my experience this last week in helping a disciple(s) grow:
2. What I learned from the experience:
3. These are the people I spent time with this last week and what we did (use either a *Contact Log* or *Disciple Log* for each person or family and keep the sheets in a binder):
4. What I plan to do this next week to disciple my cross-cultural friend:
5. The friend or family member with whom I shared what I learned and invited to do the same:
6. Someone or something I would like us to be praying about:
7. Things I want to remember or share with my team from the video clips, my completion of study #9 in *My Favorite Missionary*, and my focus on prayers for those who are "Hindu" in *Praying for the World Next Door*.

Partnering to Redeem the Culture



MISSION OBJECTIVES

- A. I will learn how the Bible values, confronts, and transforms culture.
- B. I will prayerfully examine the culture of those I am discipling and examine my culture in light of Bible principles to help us grow more like Jesus.



TEAM CARE AND ACCOUNTABILITY (20 MINUTES)

1. Tell us about your experience helping your contacts grow as disciples of Jesus.
2. What other experiences have you had in following up on your international contacts. (Keep updating and referring to your *Contact Log* and/or *Disciple Log*).
3. What did you learn from study #9 in *My Favorite Missionary* and video clips?
4. What needs or challenges are you facing that we can pray for?
5. Pray together, especially for each other and the friends from other cultures whom you have met.



PRESENTATION (14:50 MINUTES)

WATCH: *Partnering to Redeem the Culture*. Take notes using the following outline:

1. By observing creation, what can we see (Romans 1:19-20)?
2. By observing humans, what can we know (Romans 2:14-16)?
3. *We can trace the line of the world's (a)_____ as far back as human records extend; but the (b)_____ was before them. As the moon and the stars of our solar system shine by the reflected light of the sun, so, as far as their teaching is (c) _____, do the world's great thinkers (d)_____ the rays of the Sun of Righteousness. Every gleam of thought, every flash of the intellect, is from the Light of the world* (White 1903, 13).

4. Four essential questions for redeeming a culture:

QUESTION #1 What excellent (a) _____ do you see in this culture that match biblical values and morals?

QUESTION #2 What aspects of this culture do you think are (b) _____, conflicting with Bible principles, or connected with (c) _____ (d) _____?

QUESTION #3 What aspects of this culture do you think take away from the glory of God as (e) _____, (f) _____, (g) _____?

QUESTION #4 What types of things could you do to (h) _____ some of those wrong cultural values and practices with something (i) _____?



DISCOVERY AND DISCUSSION (40 MINUTES)

1. How do you feel after watching *Partnering to Redeem the Culture* and what did you learn?
2. **Read Romans 12:1-2.** What can we learn from these verses to help us decide which aspects of culture to follow and which aspects to reject?
3. What good qualities have you observed in the cultures of the people of other ethnicities that you have gotten acquainted with so far?
4. What negative qualities and sinful practices have you noticed in the cultures of your international friends?
5. What about your own cultures? What good qualities and negative or sinful qualities and practices do you see?
6. Use the four essential questions for redeeming a culture to discuss what you should do in the following scenarios. Read and discuss one scenario at a time, covering all three if there is sufficient time.
 - A. Suppose an international friend of yours, who has come to faith in Jesus, invites you to join him and his Hindu friends to celebrate Diwali, a festival of lights celebration that originates in India. They plan to attend the Broadway style rendition of the Ramayana, the major Indian epic story of good and evil. "Please come with me," your friend says, "This is as important to us as Christmas is to you!" Afterwards they plan to go shopping and eat with family in the Little India district.

You've seen people celebrating Diwali on TV at Disneyland and other places. It looks so colorful and fun. "Tell me more what it means," you ask. Your friend says, "It is the celebration of good triumphing over evil with the clay lamps showing how our inner light triumphs over darkness." He also mentions it is an excellent time to receive blessings from Lakshmi, the goddess of prosperity.

- B.** Suppose the sister of your newly baptized friend who migrated from Laos has suddenly died. You want to comfort him and his family. He texts that they are at the Buddhist temple in downtown Vancouver and to please come and join them. You have no idea what to expect so you call a church member who used to be Buddhist. “What should I do and what should I not do?” you ask. He says, “You’ll have to figure that out, but expect that they will be offering incense and praying for the girl so that her ghost won’t stay around and she can have a better future life.”

You call your Laotian friend and ask him if there is anything you should bring. “Well,” he says, “In our culture people always bring rice or cash to feed everyone and to help pay for the monks to do the ceremony. “I don’t know what to do,” he adds. “My parents want me to shave my head and become a monk for a few days to make merit to help my sister. Can Christians do that to show their love?”

- C.** Suppose you are a third-generation Karen Seventh-day Adventist who has just moved to Australia as a refugee. You attend the local church and hardly understand anything because you are just learning English. At this church everything seems so different. The music is super modern and people wear jeans and tee-shirts and call each other by their first names, even to the pastor. None of it seems respectful.

After church one of the young people invites you to go out to eat and then to a movie. You’ve never done that on Sabbath and ask if they have a potluck or an Adventist Youth meeting that evening. Your friend says, “No, but we are going to the club tonight. Can you come?” When you look shocked, he laughs and says, “Hey, you are in Australia now. You have your culture back home and we have our culture here. Our culture is to have fun. Hey, don’t worry, God made us to have fun and besides, He’s super forgiving.”

- 7.** What have you learned today and how will you use it this week?



TEAM PRAYER (10 MINUTES)

Pray together for God’s Word and the power of the Holy Spirit to transform your culture and the cultures of your friends; for God’s people to grow to reflect Him more and more; for the unreached people groups to have their first opportunity to know the living God.

PROMISES TO CLAIM:

- ✔ *To open their eyes, in order to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who are sanctified by faith in Me (Acts 26:18).*

- ✔ *His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust (2 Peter 1:3-4).*
- ✔ *Prayer is the breath of the soul. It is the secret of spiritual power. No other means of grace can be substituted, and the health of the soul be preserved. Prayer brings the heart into immediate contact with the Well-spring of life, and strengthens the sinew and muscle of the religious experience. Neglect the exercise of prayer, or engage in prayer spasmodically, now and then, as seems convenient, and you lose your hold on God (White 1915, 255).*



ASSIGNMENTS (5 MINUTES)

1. What do you plan to do to follow up on any of the friendships you have developed? Use the *Disciple Log* to keep track of important areas of growth. You can now use this to replace the *Contact Log* or staple them together and use both.
2. On your own, prayerfully read the *Lesson 10 Field Activity: Search Me and My Culture*.
3. Talk with one of your friends about his or her culture and yours. Answer together the questions in *Field Report #10*. Be prepared to share what you learned and experienced with your team.
4. Mobilize and Multiply. Share with a friend or family member what you learned about valuing, confronting, and transforming culture. Encourage him or her to prayerfully go through the *Lesson 10 Field Activity: Search Me and My Culture*.
5. Complete study #10 in *My Favorite Missionary* and focus your prayers on those who are “Buddhist” in *Praying for the World Next Door*.
6. Watch the following video clip:
Dr. Conrad Vine describes the deep worldview change that must happen for each new believer.
7. Complete the form: *Field Report #10*.

LESSON 10 FIELD ACTIVITY: SEARCH ME AND MY CULTURE

REFLECT AND PRAY

Jesus, You said in Your description about the lukewarm nature of the church at the end of time, “You think you are rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing—and do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked” (Revelation 3:15-17). Today I don’t want to be blind just because I’m part of a certain culture. Please send me the Holy Spirit to be like medicine for my blindness (verse 18). Rebuke me and correct me (verse 19). As I contemplate Your Ten Commandments of Love, search me and my culture.

1. What do I love more than You? What do I spend my time and thoughts on to a greater extent than You? Have I lifted myself up, seeking to make myself look good to others through my achievements, degrees, talents, or even my spirituality? Is my honor more important to me than giving glory to God and serving humbly?
2. Do I spend my time on entertainment that decreases my desire to spend time in Your Word, praying or worshipping You? Are the things that I listen to, watch, or read filling my mind with images and leading to a lifestyle that is against the Ten Commandments and the example of Jesus? Are they an idol that I would struggle to lay down for a week, a day, or an hour?
3. Do I take Your name in vain, claiming to be a Christian but not living His life? Am I going along with everyone else, following the culture even when it goes against Your commands or causes me to neglect some of the things that are important to You?
4. Do I work so hard at achieving that I neglect my time with God, my family, my health, or helping others? Am I breaking Your Sabbath because I think I have to in order to provide for my family or because I want to make some extra money? Do I use the Sabbath for my own pleasure when I could be spending time with You or helping someone?
5. Do I neglect the elderly and do I tend to disrespect those in places of authority like my parents, teachers, and leaders in the church or government simply because everyone around me tends to be cynical of leadership and value independence and youthfulness more than cooperation, experience, and honor?
6. Jesus said that hatred is the seed of murder. Towards whom am I bitter and unforgiving? Is there any prejudice in my heart towards someone because they are different from me? How else have I and my culture devalued life?
7. Have I come to consider sexual immorality as normal, watching it in movies, on the internet, or even participating in it, instead of hating that which destroys marriages and the beauty of love as God created it?
8. Have I stolen something from my boss, company, or the government? Have I refused to give God my tithes and offerings? Am I using all that I have for the growth of God’s kingdom or for my own impermanent kingdom?

9. Do I excuse small lies or deceive by my actions or silence because I think it might help me in some other way or to just keep the peace and not hurt someone's feelings? Do I gossip and defame other people's reputations or make myself look better than others, putting them down? Am I afraid to speak up for the truth because someone might make fun of me or persecute me?
10. Do I covet what others have, or am I unthankful for all the blessings God has given me? Do I easily spend money unnecessarily on myself that could have been used to keep alive starving people or to share the gospel with those who have never had a chance to know Jesus? Do I think I deserve the treats I give myself when others have worked at least as hard and struggle without?

Thank You for showing me more of my ugly self. You invited me to "be zealous and repent" and promised that You stand at the door of my heart to come and be close to me. Thank You for Your promise that "to him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne" (Revelation 3:19-21). With Your help, I choose to repent from the things You have convicted me about. Please forgive me and live in me. In Jesus' name, amen.

FIELD REPORT #10



Name _____ Date Due _____

Email Address _____ Phone _____

Home Church _____ Team Number _____

PARTNERING TO REDEEM THE CULTURE

1. Ask the following questions about cultural practices to one of your international friends who you think can be helped in his or her journey of faith by discussing such issues. You can also answer the questions for yourself about your culture and share those thoughts with your friend.
 - A. What excellent values do you see in your culture that match the values and beliefs we have been learning about in the Bible?
 - B. What aspects of your culture do you think are wrong, conflicting with biblical principles, or connected with evil spirits?
 - C. What practices in your culture do you think take away from God's glory as Creator, Protector, and Savior?
 - D. What types of things could we do to replace some of those wrong cultural values and practices with something better?
2. What I learned from the experience:

3. These are the people I spent time with this last week and what we did (keep updating a *Contact Log* or *Disciple Log* for each person or family and keep the sheets in a binder):

4. What I plan to do this next week to disciple my contacts:

5. The friend or family member with whom I shared what I learned and invited to do the same:

6. Someone or something I would like us to be praying about:

7. Things I want to remember or share with my team from the video clips, my completion of study #10 in *My Favorite Missionary*, and my focus on prayers for people who are "Buddhist" in *Praying for the World Next Door*.

Building the International Body of Believers



MISSION OBJECTIVES

- A. I will do my part to improve the quality of my church group by applying more of the biblical principles for becoming a Spirit-filled church.
- B. I will either start a Discovery Group that includes non-Christians or support a church plant among a specific language group.



TEAM CARE AND ACCOUNTABILITY (20 MINUTES)

1. Tell us with whom you discussed cultural practices in light of the Bible and what you learned through the process.
2. What other experiences have you had in following up on your international contacts. (Keep updating and referring to your *Contact Log* or *Disciple Log*).
3. What did you learn from study #10 in *My Favorite Missionary*?
4. What needs or challenges are you facing that we can pray for?
5. Pray together especially for each other and the people of other cultures you have met.



PRESENTATION (27:33 MINUTES)

WATCH: *Building the International Body of Believers*



DISCOVERY AND DISCUSSION (25 MINUTES)

1. **Read Acts 2:40-47.** List the various activities and attitudes of the early church and its members.
2. What church or small group experience in your life has been the closest to this type of body of believers?
3. What did you learn from the various individuals in the video presentation about encouraging the planting of an ethnic church?
4. Read this quote: *Upon all who believe, God has placed the burden of raising up churches.... Our churches, large and small, are not to be treated in such a way that they will be helplessly dependent upon ministerial aid. The members are to be so established in the faith that they will have an intelligent knowledge of medical missionary work. They are to follow Christ's example, ministering to those around them. Faithfully they are to fulfill the vows made at their baptism, the vow that they will practice the lessons taught in the life of Christ* (White 1932, 315). How would your local church and your personal life be different if we followed this counsel?
5. Discuss what you and your team should do in order to help build up the body of believers, especially among unreached ethnic groups.
If your team thinks that you would like to do a Discovery Group use these questions to help you move forward.
 - A. Which of our international, non-Christian friends would we like to invite?

- B. Who of our team should lead the group? (Should we have more than one leader or group?)
 - C. Where could we meet?
 - D. How long should the meeting last each week?
 - E. When will we start and how many weeks should it last?
 - F. Should we serve any refreshments and who should be in charge of them?
 - G. What costs might we have and how shall we cover them?
 - H. What Bible stories will we cover that match the needs and background of the non-Christians attending? (Consider options at reachtheworldnextdoor.com/resources).
6. What have you learned today and how will you use it this week?



TEAM PRAYER (10 MINUTES)

Pray for God to raise up a new group of believers through you; pray for many more groups and churches to be planted.

Promises to Claim:

- ✔ How will the temple be built? *"Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit," says the Lord of hosts (Zechariah 4:6).*
- ✔ *Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit (Ephesians 2:19-22).*

- ✔ *The formation of small companies as a basis of Christian effort is a plan that has been presented before me by One who cannot err. If there is a large number in the church, let the members be formed into small companies, to work not only for the church members but for unbelievers also (White 1946, 115).*
- ✔ *We need the vitalizing power of the Spirit—the strong cry of a church traveling to bring forth souls. There is need of more earnest wrestling with God for the impartation of the Holy Spirit. Eager, earnest, importunate prayer is needed. There is efficiency in prayer. In answer to fervent prayer God can turn the thoughts and hearts of men as he turns the waters of the sea (White 1902).*



ASSIGNMENTS (5 MINUTES)

1. What do you plan to do to follow up on any of the friendships you have developed? Use the *Disciple Log* to keep track of important areas of growth. You can now use this to replace the *Contact Log* or staple them together and use both.
2. Review *Lesson 11 Field Activity: Discovery Group Outline*
3. Review *Lesson 11 Field Activity: Discovery Group Outline*. Use it with at least one group this week whether in your family worship, with a friend, or in a church small group.
4. Mobilize and Multiply. Share with a friend or family member what you learned about being a Spirit-filled church. Send him or her the *Lesson 11 Field Activity: Discovery Group Outline* and encourage him or her to start a group either with you or with others.
5. Complete *Lesson 11 Assigned Reading: Growing Refugee and Immigrant Churches*
6. Complete study #11 in *My Favorite Missionary* and focus your prayers on people in religions that are “New, Very Old, or Unusual” in *Praying for the World Next Door*.
7. Watch at least one of the following video clips to learn more about how to build God’s church:
 - A. Elder Dan Serns, Mr. Fabian Reid, and Elder Scott Griswold share their experiences in starting home groups and ethnic churches.
 - B. Dr. Anthony WagenerSmith passionately shares the importance of church planting and the basic steps.
8. Complete the form: *Field Report #11*.

LESSON 11 FIELD ACTIVITY: DISCOVERY GROUP OUTLINE

1. What are you thankful for?
2. What has stressed you out this week?
3. What else would you like us to pray about? (We share so we can praise God, care for each other, and pray for each other). (The leader can pray or everyone who wants to).
4. What did we talk about last week?
5. Did you change anything in your life as a result of last week's teaching?
6. Who did you share the story with?
7. We identified several needs last week and planned to meet those needs. How did it go? (We learn so we can grow, obey, and honor God. We learn so we can bless others).
8. Let's see what the Bible teaches us this week.
 - A. Please read the following passage (choose prayerfully which story or passage can help the group grow):
 - B. Could someone please retell the passage in your own words?
 - C. Are there any details we can add that our friend left out or any corrections to help us have the Bible passage clear in our minds? (Reread if necessary to include the important details).
 - D. (If someone says something that is incorrect we should correct it through the passage itself by kindly asking "Where did you find that in this passage?" This will help them to look to the scriptures rather than their own ideas for truth).
 - E. What does this passage teach us about God?
 - F. What does this passage teach about how we should live? Is there a command to obey, a good example to follow, or a bad example to reject?

- G.** Are there any promises of what God will do to help us?

 - H.** If we believe this passage is from God, how must we change? (We study the Bible because we believe God gave it to us so we could know and honor Him and receive His blessings on our health, family, finances, and find salvation from sin leading to eternal life).
- 9.** Who do you know that needs to hear what we have learned before we meet again?
- 10.** Do you know anyone in your community that needs our help or who we can pray for? (Pray).
(We are blessed so we can be a blessing to others).

LESSON 11 ASSIGNED READING: GROWING REFUGEE AND IMMIGRANT CHURCHES IN THE NORTH AMERICAN DIVISION

By Terri Saelee

Introduction

The world has come to North America. Government statistics, demographic studies, and the faces we see around us all call our attention to the fact that, as Ellen White summarized years ago, “God in His providence has brought men to our very doors and thrust them, as it were, into our arms, that they might learn the truth, and be qualified to do a work we could not do in getting the light before men of other tongues.” Inspired counsel emphasizes the significance of this migration of people groups, particularly from countries that are especially difficult to reach with missionaries, as “a divinely appointed means of rapidly extending the third angel’s message into all the nations of the earth” (White 1914, par. 17).

The concept introduced in the inspired counsel above is now known in missiological circles as diaspora missions, and its field of study is called Diaspora Missiology, as presented in the book *Diaspora Missiology: Theory, Methodology, and Practice*, by Enoch Wan. There is an urgency in this work because the longer these international guests are here, the more settled and busy they become, and the less open they are to the message of salvation God has entrusted to us to share. We must reach them when they are most open to the gospel—when they first arrive. White expressed this urgency when she wrote: “Wake up, wake up, my brethren and sisters, and enter the fields in America that have never been worked. After you have given something for foreign fields, do not think your duty done. There is a work to be done in foreign fields, but there is a work to be done in America that is just as important. In the cities of America there are people of almost every language. These need the light that God has given to his church” (1914, par. 12).

This document introduces three main categories of diaspora in North America that need specialized support for optimum growth and recommends ways that church members can facilitate growth among each.

Definitions

To effectively work with each language group, it is important to first understand the level at which that group has been reached by the gospel. The following definitions can be helpful:

- 1. People Group:** An ethno-linguistic group with a common self-identity that is shared by the various members. For strategic purposes it is the largest group within which the gospel can spread without encountering barriers of understanding or acceptance (People Groups 2020).
- 2. Unreached/Least-Reached:** (These terms are used interchangeably.) According to *The Joshua Project*, “an unreached or least-reached people is a people group among which there is no indigenous community of believing Christians with adequate numbers and resources to evangelize this people group without outside assistance” (2020, “Unreached/Least Reached”). Unreached/least-reached people groups can only be reached cross-culturally.
- 3. Unengaged:** “An unengaged unreached people group (UUPG) [is an unreached people group that] has no known active church planting underway” (Joshua Project 2020, “Unengaged”). A people group is not considered “engaged” when it has merely been adopted, is the object of focused prayer, or is part of an advocacy strategy. “At least four essential elements constitute effective engagement:

- Apostolic effort in residence.
- Commitment to work in the local language and culture.
- Commitment to long-term ministry.
- Sowing in a manner consistent with the goal of seeing a Church Planting Movement (CPM) emerge (Joshua Project 2020, “Unengaged”).

“All unengaged unreached people groups (UUPGs) are by definition unreached people groups (UPGs) . . . UUPGs are a subset of UPGs” (Joshua Project 2020, “Unengaged”).

- 4. Unestablished:** Unestablished language groups may be considered reached, but their faith communities have been disrupted, and they have been scattered, often due to persecution, political unrest, and/or war, and need assistance reconnecting and establishing faith communities in their new context. This is most often the case among Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and especially refugees. The term unestablished language groups is not generally in the literature, but the author of this article has found it useful to specify this significant category.

Primary People Group Categories in the North American Division (NAD)

Most language groups in the NAD needing specialized support fall into one of three categories. A unique approach is needed for each category.

1. Reached Abroad but Unestablished Here

Language groups that have been reached by missionaries abroad but have not yet been able to establish faith communities in their new country of resettlement are at risk of losing their faith. They need to be able to worship and reach their friends and relatives in their heart language. The level of risk for these language groups is directly proportionate to the language group’s (1) fluency in English, or lack thereof, (2) majority religious background, as well as, (3) the degree to which the religious background and culture differs from Christianity and the culture in the new country, (4) the level of importance the culture places on maintaining their own language and culture versus adapting to a new one, (5) average educational level, (6) socioeconomic level, and (7) whether or not they came as refugees and the length of time spent in the refugee experience, especially during formative years, prior to arriving in the country of resettlement.

Examples of recently arriving language groups that fit this category upon arrival in the US, Canada, Australia, France, and other countries of resettlement include Kinyarwanda/Kirundi-speaking refugees from Rwanda, Burundi, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Karen and Zomi refugees from Burma, Mizo refugees from Burma and Mizo immigrants from the Mizoram State in India.

The most effective way to grow the work among these language groups is to empower them to work among their own people. Here are some effective ways to facilitate growth among these groups who come with a long history of Adventism back home:

- A.** Facilitate fellowship within the language group:
- Help believers secure a place where they can worship in their heart language.

- B.** Empower indigenous leaders
 - Dialogue with these leaders. Listen to their dreams and visions. Pray with them and find ways to empower them to do what God is calling them to do.
 - Connect the group leader with the local Conference leadership and with the Division-wide network for the language group for resources, events, training, and mentoring in their heart language. (See refugeeministries.org.)
 - Find funding to assist them in their initiatives, resource development, growth strategies, and especially to support the self-sacrificing leaders.
- C.** Find ways to help make Adventist education accessible to them.
- D.** Inspire these language groups with the vision of reaching other related language groups (or find ways to facilitate such efforts, as these groups are almost always a step ahead of us in this area).

2. Unreached but Engaged

Unreached but Engaged people groups are those in which most of the population is unreached, but there are some converts and/or workers within the language group who are capable of sharing the everlasting gospel with their people in their native language. They can share the gospel more effectively within their culture than we who are from outside their culture, but they need support.

Examples of language groups in North America that are Unreached but beginning to be Engaged include Tigrinya-speaking refugees from Eritrea, Nuer-speaking refugees from South Sudan, and Nepali-speaking Bhutanese refugees.

These groups are more fragile than the “reached but unestablished” groups, as the work among these groups is usually relatively new, and the reputation of the gospel among these groups depends on a very few key individuals, often recent converts. The enemy knows when a people group without the light of the gospel is beginning to receive the wonderful light of salvation and he does not allow the light of salvation into the group without a fight. It is not uncommon to see unusual and daunting obstacles arise seemingly out of nowhere with these groups. The few individuals in these language groups who know and can share the truth are often the targets of unexpected and almost unbelievable physical, social, financial, and/or spiritual attacks. Much earnest prayer, empathy, and perseverance is needed to support these individuals and their families who are pioneering the work among their people group.

The best ways to support the crucial but fragile new work among these language groups is to support the work already begun, especially the individuals doing it, and to extend the reach of their ministry.

Here are some specific ways:

- A.** Pray for the unreached among the language group and for the new converts and workers seeking to share their faith within the language group. Invite others to pray.
- B.** Find ways to support the work financially. This is very crucial for the work at this stage.
 - Support dedicated workers needing education for the ministry.

- Support church planters.
- Support resource development.

While it may seem daunting, many hands make light work, and in this case, collaboration and partnerships between various entities can lighten the load for everyone and give the language group the jump start it needs to grow rapidly.

- C. Extend the ministry with similar methods as those employed in reaching unreached and unengaged people groups, except with the addition of added resources and in close collaboration with the early converts, workers, and others already working for and in the language group.

3. Unreached/Least Reached/Unreached Unengaged Groups

An unreached or least-reached people is a people group among which there is no indigenous community of believing Christians with adequate numbers and resources to evangelize the people group without outside assistance. Joshua Project uses the terms “unreached” and “least-reached” synonymously. Some entities use the term “unreached, unengaged groups (UUGs).” Typically, a group is considered unreached if less than 2% of the population is Christian (Joshua Project 2020, “Unreached/Least Reached”).

There are various lists of unreached people groups in North America. J.D. Payne estimates around 348 unreached unengaged language groups (Payne 2017). However, even the longest lists are missing some refugee groups identified by *Adventist Refugee & Immigrant Ministries* (ARIM).

Some examples of groups unreached by the Adventist message in North America include the Mienh, Khamu, and Lahu from Laos and the Karenni, Falam, and Haka from Myanmar. There are also groups from China, India, Africa, the Middle East, and throughout the 10/40 Window.

Unreached language groups must be reached cross-culturally. The least-reached groups are the ones we most need to reach, and yet it is these groups that we are least likely to feel called to reach, merely because they are often not even on our radar. They are not coming to our churches asking for a place to worship because they are usually as unaware of us and the message of hope and wholeness we have to share, as we are of them, and their languages, backgrounds, cultures, and needs, as well as their skills, gifts, values, and strengths. For this reason, this category is the one that needs the most personal effort and time invested in preparation and incarnational ministry by cross-cultural missionaries.

To connect with unreached people groups and rightly represent the Savior and the everlasting gospel to people from backgrounds vastly different from our own demands that we be abiding in Christ, in tune with the still small voice of the Holy Spirit. White says, “Only the work accomplished with much prayer, and sanctified by the merit of Christ, will in the end prove to have been efficient for good” (1898, 362). But this is no reason to draw back in fear (Heb 10:38-39). “For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind” (2 Tim 1:7). He is more willing to give us the Holy Spirit than we are to ask. So, “ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full” (John 16:24).

One of the most important keys to successful cross-cultural ministry is to realize that God is already at work in every culture (Psalm 19). This will help us to connect with respect. With this perspective, our knowledge of the Bible can help us to aid unreached cultures in recognizing God’s leading in their culture. When we affirm the values within their culture that are from God, their hearts and ours will be more open to additional humbly shared truths revealed in the Bible. And God may even use these “unreached” people to give us deeper insights into biblical truths.

We should keep in mind the inspired counsel that when people from unreached cultures embrace Bible truth, they can “be qualified to do a work we could not do in getting the light before men of other tongues” (White 1914, par. 17). Thus, we should focus more on quality than quantity of relationships and seek divine guidance to discern who God may be preparing to share the message with their own culture, and cooperate with Him in qualifying these individuals/families for this high calling.

Then, as God begins using these individuals/families, we should be willing to take a back seat and say, like John the Baptist did of Christ, “He must increase, but I must decrease” (John 3:30). Of course, we should always be seeking to transfer people’s loyalty from ourselves to Christ, but we should also be willing to encourage our “following” to support the leadership of those within the culture that God calls to lead. This transition into a more supportive background role is best done gradually and prayerfully.

Another lesson we have learned in diaspora missions among refugees and immigrants in North America is to avoid the temptation to make a big splash. Broad announcements of large plans tend to excite suspicion and trigger resistance. Here the example of Jesus is priceless. “He shunned all outward display” (White 1898, 43). By far the most effective way to reach and grow the work among all three categories of diaspora populations described above is to follow the example of Jesus who quietly “went about doing good” (Acts 10:38). Nature and the life of Christ are both replete with this lesson. “The Sun of Righteousness did not burst upon the world in splendor, to dazzle the senses with His glory. It is written of Christ, ‘His going forth is prepared as the morning.’ Quietly and gently the daylight breaks upon the earth, dispelling the shadow of darkness, and waking the world to life. So did the Sun of Righteousness arise, ‘with healing in His wings’” (White 1898, 261). So should we work, like the sap quietly infusing life into every branch and twig of the dormant fruit trees in late winter, until by the time the casual observer notices any difference in the seemingly dead tree, the whole tree bursts into bloom. Thus, we should quietly infuse the love of Jesus into refugee and immigrant communities, leading them to abide in the True Vine until they cannot help but share Him with those nearest and dearest to them. With this mindset and these methods, we may be surprised by the rate at which God arranges divine appointments for us to connect with unreached people.

Here are some practical steps: (However, the order in which God leads may vary)

- A.** Prayerfully identify unreached people groups in your area.
- B.** Learn how to best connect with them, by taking time to research their religious background, history, and cultural values, and socio-demographic data. (This step is often most effective when done simultaneously with our interactions with people from the unreached culture, as long as we are following Christ’s method.
 - For assistance connecting with individuals from other cultures please see the addendum for contact information to ministry leaders.
- C.** Watch and pray for divine appointments.
- D.** Find places and ways to meet and mingle with unreached people groups. For example:
 - Shop/eat at ethnic stores/restaurants, prayerfully making friends with owners/managers of the businesses.
 - Offer to volunteer for a local literacy council.
 - The *Reach the World Next Door* training program contains excellent ideas in this area.

- E.** Follow up on divine appointments and carefully nurture friendships made.
 - Value each cross-cultural friendship and avoid seeing people as short-term projects, but rather as friends.
 - Follow Christ’s method (White 1905, 143).
 - Don’t hesitate to share what God means to you personally and ask to pray for your new friends. If they decline, respect their wishes and continue to care.
- F.** Find others with a burden for reaching the language group(s) and include key individuals and leaders in an advisory/support team for the leading convert(s)/worker(s) for the language group, and to begin to strategize together with them for the growth of the ministry, realizing that believers, within the culture, “can do a work we cannot do” among these language groups. They are the experts on the culture. We are there to empower them to do what God is calling them to do among their people.
- G.** Prioritize the personal and professional development of the new converts, especially promising young people, both male and female. (Experience has taught us that when we only educate young men for ministry, the lack of educated young women from the culture can become a significant dilemma.)
- H.** Connect these converts/new workers with as many leaders and resources as possible.
- I.** Keep the local Conference, Union, and Division leadership, including Multilingual/Ethnic and/or Refugee & Immigrant Ministries coordinators abreast of developments within the language group, as they may be able to facilitate its growth and suggest helpful resources and connections
- J.** Prayerfully, in consultation with the local conference and NAD ARIM, work toward taking the unreached group to the next level—engagement:
 - Apostolic effort (a pioneer) in residence (location, proximity is important.)
 - Commitment to work in the local language and culture
 - Recruiting promising young people as translators and mentoring them can speed the process of reaching the people group in their language and culture.
 - Commitment to long-term ministry.
 - Sowing in a manner consistent with the goal of seeing a Church Planting Movement (CPM) emerge (Joshua Project 2020, “Church Planting Movement/Kingdom Movement”).
 - A Church Planting Movement is defined as “a rapid multiplication of indigenous churches planting churches that sweeps through a people group or population segment” (Garrison 2004, 21).

At this stage, proceed with the approach recommended for growing the work among Unreached but Engaged groups.

Another key to effectively connecting with unreached cultures is to respect the leaders and leadership structure within the culture. We should follow the example of Jesus, who first went to the Jewish leaders as a child humbly asking questions. He later taught his disciples, “Most assuredly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door, but climbs up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber. But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him

the doorkeeper opens, and the sheep hear his voice; and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out" (John 10:1).

Of course, the main lesson in these words of Jesus is that He is the true Shepherd; however, these words also hold clues to effective cross-cultural mission efforts. The spiritual leaders are the gatekeepers of various people groups. God inspired His servant to write, "Our ministers should seek to come near to the ministers of other denominations" (White 1900, 78). Faith leaders are often the best able to connect with other faith leaders, including those of other world religions. Specific methods are outlined. "Pray for and with these men [women], for whom Christ is interceding. A solemn responsibility is theirs. As Christ's messengers, we should manifest a deep earnest interest in these shepherds of the flock" (78). "Our ministers are to make it their special work to labor for ministers [other faith leaders]. They are not to get into controversy with them, but, with their Bible in their hand, urge them to study the Word. If this is done, there are many ministers now preaching error, who will preach the truth for this time" (White 1946, 562). "It requires much wisdom to reach ministers and men [women] of influence. But why should they be neglected...?" (562). "First reach the high classes if possible, but there should be no neglect of the lower classes.... Plan to reach the best classes, and you will not fail to reach the lower classes" (553).

While typically leaders can best be reached by other leaders, it is also important to remember that the most important qualification is the infilling of the Holy Spirit. "Even the great men are more easily drawn by the simplicity of the gospel than by any effort made in human power. We need more of God and far less of self. God will work through the weakest human agent who is charged with His Spirit" (557).

Summary

The essence of who we are as Seventh-day Adventist Christians is bound up in the great commission and the everlasting gospel, which is to go, with a loud voice, to every nation (ethnos), kindred, tongue, and people. We, here in North America, have abundant opportunities to impact unreached cultures around the world in preparation for Jesus' soon return by prayerful, intentional efforts to share the distinctive Christ-centered Seventh-day Adventist message of hope and wholeness with the language groups that are unreached, unengaged, and/or unestablished here and supporting them in doing "a work we could not do" within and beyond their cultures. May God help us to be faithful to this trust.

Contact Information for North American Division Ministries

Adventist Refugee and Immigrant Ministries:

Terri Saelee, Coordinator

TerriSaelee@nadadventist.org

Adventist-Muslim Relations:

Gabriela de Phillips, Coordinator

GabrielaPhillips@nadadventist.org

Works Cited

- Garrison, David. 2004. Church Planting Movements: How God is Redeeming a Lost World. Midlothian, IL: WIGTake Resources.
- Joshua Project. 2020. "Unengaged." Definitions. <http://joshuaproject.net/help/definitions> (accessed August 2, 2020).
- Joshua Project. 2020. "Unreached/Least Reached." Definitions. <http://joshuaproject.net/help/definitions> (accessed August 2, 2020).
- Joshua Project. 2020. "Church Planting Movement/Kingdom Movement." Definitions. <http://joshuaproject.net/help/definitions> (accessed August 2, 2020).
- Payne, J.D. 2017. "348 Unengaged-Unreached People Groups in North America." <https://www.jdpayne.org/2017/10/348-unengaged-unreached-people-groups-in-north-america/> (accessed July 21, 2020).
- People Groups. 2020. "What is a People Group." <https://www.peoplegroups.org/Default.aspx> (accessed August 2, 2020).
- Wan, Enoch. 2014. Diaspora Missiology: Theory, Methodology, and Practice. 2nd ed. Portland, OR: Institute of Diaspora Studies of USA.
- White, Ellen G. 1898. Desire of Ages. Mountain View, CA: Pacific Press.
- . 1900. Testimonies for the Church. Vol. 6. Mountain View, CA: Pacific Press.
- . 1905. Ministry of Healing. Mountain View, CA: Pacific Press.
- . 1914. "The Foreigners in America." The Review and Herald. October 29, 1914.
- . 1946. Evangelism. Washington, D.C.: Review and Herald.

FIELD REPORT #11



Name _____ Date Due _____

Email Address _____ Phone _____

Home Church _____ Team Number _____

BUILDING THE INTERNATIONAL BODY OF BELIEVERS

1. Here is where I led a Discovery Group and what I learned from the experience:
2. These are the people I spent time with this last week and what we did (keep updating a *Contact Log* or *Disciple Log* for each person or family and keep the sheets in a binder):
3. What I plan to do this next week to disciple my contacts from other cultures:
4. The friend or family member with whom I shared what I learned and invited to do the same:
5. What I learned and/or what I want to be involved in after reading *Lesson 11 Assigned Reading: Growing Refugee and Immigrant Churches*:
6. Someone or something I would like us to be praying about:
7. Things I want to remember or share with my team from the video clips, my completion of study #11 in *My Favorite Missionary*, and my focus on prayers for those following religions that are "New, Very Old, or Unusual" in *Praying for the World Next Door*.

Effectively Managing Cross-Cultural Conflict



MISSION OBJECTIVE

- A. I will seek to resolve conflict using biblical principles while incorporating the various ways cultures solve differences.



TEAM CARE AND ACCOUNTABILITY (20 MINUTES)

1. Share how your experience went using the *Discovery Group Outline (Lesson 11 Field Activity)* with your family or friends.
2. Talk further about plans towards establishing an outreach group in the next two or three weeks.
3. What other experiences have you had in following up on your cross-cultural friendships. (Keep using and referring to your *Contact Log* or *Disciple Log*.)
4. What did you learn from study #11 in *My Favorite Missionary* and the video clips?
5. What needs or challenges are you facing that we can pray for?
6. Pray together especially for each other and the friends from other cultures whom you have met.



PRESENTATION (18:14 MINUTES)

WATCH: *Effectively Managing Cross-Cultural Conflict*. Take notes using the following outline.

1. That they all may be (a) _____, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be (b) _____ in Us, that the (c) _____ may believe that You sent Me (John 17:21).
2. But (a) _____ your enemies, do (b) _____, and lend, hoping for nothing in return.... Therefore be (c) _____, just as your Father also is merciful (Luke 6:35-36).

3. *Not until you feel that you could sacrifice your own self-dignity, and even lay down your life in order to save an erring brother, have you cast the beam out of your own eye so that you are prepared to help your brother. Then you can approach him and touch his heart. No one has ever been (a)_____ from a wrong position by censure and reproach; but many have thus been driven from Christ and led to seal their hearts against conviction. A tender spirit, a gentle, (b)_____ deportment, may save the erring and hide a multitude of sins. The revelation of Christ in your own character will have a (c)_____ power upon all with whom you come in contact. Let Christ be daily made manifest in you, and He will reveal through you the creative energy of His word—a gentle, persuasive, yet mighty influence to re-create other souls in the beauty of the Lord our God” (White 1896, 128).*
4. *When differences arise among brethren as to the understanding of any point of truth, there is one (a)_____ rule to follow. In the spirit of meekness and love for God and one another, let brethren come together, and after earnest prayer, with a sincere desire to know God’s will, study the Bible with the spirit of a little child, to see how (b)_____ they can draw together, and not sacrifice anything but their selfish dignity. They should regard themselves as in the presence of the whole universe of God, who are watching with intense interest as brother tries to see (c)_____ to (d)_____ with brother, to understand the words of Christ, that they may be doers of the word” (White 1987, 1008).*



DISCOVERY AND DISCUSSION (35 MINUTES)

1. What did you gain from the presentation that is useful to help you deal with conflict in a more godly and helpful way?

2. **Read Galatians 6:1-5.** What further insights for handling conflict do these verses give you?

3. **Read Philippians 2:1-8.** What further insights do these verses give you?

4. Every person sees each situation differently from how others see it. Cultural perspectives add even more complexity. Read the following scenario:
An English-speaking church has rented the use of the church to a group of refugees for use on Sabbath afternoon and Tuesday evenings so they can worship in their own language. The group has not paid their rent in three months though they have promised to do so several times. The kitchen is usually left untidy

and smells like their unique food. One of the English-speaking elders walks through the church lobby one afternoon and sees the children running around during the worship service, up on the platform and into the hallways. He feels it is very disrespectful to the reverence of the sanctuary. Later he notices crayon markings on one of the walls.

By yourself or in groups of twos place a check mark by the sentences that you think would help solve this cross-cultural conflict.

- Hold back your comments and accusations until you better understand their culture.
 - Talk to the children directly to teach them correct principles of reverence.
 - Ask the group's leaders if you can serve as a consultant and spiritual mentor for their church plant.
 - Ask the church board to discontinue renting to this group because it is not a good stewardship of the churches resources.
 - Call the group's leaders to meet with the board to discuss the issues in an honest and straight-forward manner.
 - Talk to the group leader alone, asking questions to help you understand what is happening.
 - Change the locks on the church and don't give the group the new key.
 - Plan meals and other get-together times to informally make friendships and let the problems work themselves out.
 - Help the afternoon church group find another location to meet in.
 - Build a friendship with someone of the group's culture who can help you understand how people in that group typically think, act, interact, and solve conflicts.
 - Other:
5. Discuss together what you think are bad ideas, good ideas, and the best ideas. Write your best plans here:

6. Read this additional scenario:

Malee and Jim are newly married. They are living in the basement of the house where Malee's parents live. Her parents are immigrants from Thailand and Jim is a fourth generation American of German ancestry. The couple attends the same small group Bible study that you do and one day Malee confides that she and her husband are already really struggling in their marriage. She says Jim is often complaining about the amount of time she spends with her parents and that he seldom joins them. Jim also spends money freely without consulting her. If her parents do something Jim doesn't like, he tells them directly and they feel so embarrassed. She had no idea there would be so much conflict in marriage and just wants harmony at home.

Without any list of suggestions this time, what advice would you give to Malee?

7. How would you help Jim work through his conflicts in this home?

(For further learning about cross-cultural conflict and peace-making you may enjoy the resources that were especially helpful to the development of this lesson: *Cross-Cultural Conflict*, by Duane Elmer and the websites peacemaker.training and rw360.org).

8. What have you learned today and how will you use it this week?



TEAM PRAYER (10 MINUTES)

Pray for the amazing miracle of unity in the church both locally and globally; confess the pride and prejudice that divides us; ask for the death of Jesus and the ministry of the Holy Spirit to take away all that separates us and make our love for each other a wonder to the world. Begin to also pray for other people who could go through this training and get involved reaching out cross-culturally.

Promises to Claim:

- ✔ *But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one... For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father* (Ephesians 2:14, 18).
- ✔ *I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me* (John 17:20–21).
- ✔ *When the laborers have an abiding Christ in their own souls, when all selfishness is dead, when there is no rivalry, no strife for the supremacy, when oneness exists, when they sanctify themselves, so that love for one another is seen and felt, then the showers of the grace of the Holy Spirit will just as surely come upon them as that God's promise will never fail in one jot or tittle* (White 1958, 175).



ASSIGNMENTS (5 MINUTES)

1. What do you plan to do to follow up on any of the friendships you have developed? Use the *Disciple Log* to keep track of important areas of growth. You can now use this to replace the *Contact Log* or staple them together and use both.
2. Apply the principles you have learned in this lesson to at least one relationship this week, preferably in a cross-cultural situation. Report your experience in *Field Report #12*.
3. Retake the *Mission Survey*, which you took at the beginning of the course. Compare your results. This will help you assess how you have grown in confidence, involvement, and ability in discipleship and cross-cultural missions.

Remember how Jesus worked with the disciples. He patiently worked with them for more than three years. As He saw Peter about to fail, Jesus said, "I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren" (Luke 22:32 KJV). Jesus is also praying for you! He is leading you to a deeper and deeper experience with Him that will make you more and more effective in mission work.

Share your results with your team during Lesson 13 and talk about how you all can further grow in mission effectiveness.

- 4.** Mobilize and Multiply. Share with a friend or family member what you learned about solving conflict cross-culturally. Ask if there is a conflict that he or she has with someone that could be helped through these principles. Pray for God to bring resolution and unity and encourage him or her to take steps soon.
- 5.** Complete study #12 in *My Favorite Missionary* and focus your prayers on those who are "Non Religious" in *Praying for the World Next Door*.
- 6.** Watch the following video clip:
Divisions, unions, and conferences share how they can partner with church members to reach refugees.
- 7.** Read some possibilities for advancing the work in *Lesson 12 Assigned Reading: Potential Mission Steps for Church Administrators*.
- 8.** Optional Assignment. If it is an area that you feel a need for, read and pray through *Lesson 12 Optional Activity: Forgiving Others Brings Great Blessings*.
- 9.** Complete the form: *Field Report #12*.

MISSION SURVEY #2: GROWING WHILE GOING

Jesus asked His followers to go and make disciples of all nations (Matthew 28:18-20). That is an overwhelming task, but He specifically promised He had all authority to make it happen and He would personally be with us. At the very start of His training of the disciples, Jesus promised, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men" (Matthew 4:19). You are about to start a similar journey as you go through *Reach the World Next Door*. There is much to learn and so much to do. Jesus has the same commitment to train you and be with you that He gave to Peter, James, and John.

This mission survey will help you assess your interest, confidence, involvement, and ability in discipleship and cross-cultural missions. Take it now to see how you have grown in confidence, involvement, and ability in discipleship and cross-cultural missions.

For each question check one of the numbers that you think typically fits you: *Seldom (1), Occasionally (2), Frequently (3), Nearly Always (4)*.

| Questions | S | O | F | N |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. I pray for unreached people groups and the countries they are from. I ask God to raise up laborers to finish the Gospel Commission. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 2. I am aware of the ethnic groups living in the metro area nearest me and feel concern for their well-being. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 3. I think about, talk about, and make plans to reach out to refugees, immigrants, and international students because I know it is strategic for finishing the Gospel Commission. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 4. I am friendly to people I do not know who come from other cultures. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 5. I know where to find biblical resources in other languages and I share those resources with people who speak those languages. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 6. I enjoy experiencing other cultures, like tasting new food, learning about holidays, and celebrating traditions, etc. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 7. I take time to learn about different countries, cultures, and religions. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 8. When I am irritated by something in another person's culture, I ask questions so I can better understand and appreciate differences. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |

| | S | O | F | N |
|---|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| 9. I show respect to people of any background, valuing people for their good qualities and contributions rather than their skin color, ethnicity, gender, religion, education, or economic status. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 10. I take time to learn about the plight of refugees and pray for them. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 11. I know what organizations are helping refugees and I give to support them. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 12. I am aware of refugees living near me and I am befriending them. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 13. I study and think about the biblical passages that emphasize wholistic ministry to people's various needs. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 14. The way I spend my time and money reflects Jesus' concern and compassion towards those in need. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 15. I tangibly help people from other countries, like immigrants, refugees, and international students. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 16. I spend time with God in prayer, Bible study, and worship. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 17. I am confident that I have a saving relationship with God through Jesus. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 18. I live a Spirit-filled life, growing in victory, in the fruit of the Spirit. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 19. I know what my spiritual gifts are and use them for God. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 20. I take time to break away from work, school, media, and other distractions to grow closer to God. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 21. I ask questions and listen with genuine interest to learn what people need and believe. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 22. I affirm the positive things other people value, trying to become a closer friend. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 23. I look for opportunities to bridge conversations from ordinary things to spiritual matters. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 24. I share what God has done for me and other stories to help people around me grow in understanding and faith. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 25. I invite people to try different things that will help them experience God's power, love, and the benefits of following His principles. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |

| | S | O | F | N |
|---|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| 26. I offer to pray with people no matter what their religious background. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 27. I share scriptures and study the Bible with people who have never before had that opportunity. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 28. I share the story of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection with those who have not heard. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 29. I invite people to receive Jesus as their Savior and Lord. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 30. I learn about other religions and the various approaches that are effective in sharing truth with people who practice those religions. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 31. I read the Bible to understand and follow what it means to be a disciple of Jesus and a disciple-maker. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 32. I help new believers follow Jesus, trying to disciple them as Jesus did His followers. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 33. I compare my culture to what the Bible teaches and seek to make changes to better follow God's ways. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 34. I interact with new believers from other cultures and religions to help them examine their cultures in light of the Bible so they can keep what is good, but change or replace what is sinful. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 35. I am part of a church group and seek to help it be more Spirit-filled like the early church described in the book of Acts. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 36. I invite people who are not Christian or who are new believers to join a small group Bible study with me. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 37. I learn principles of conflict resolution from the Bible and try to apply them in the conflicts I face. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 38. When I have a conflict with someone of another culture, I take time to understand their perspective and seek to adapt to their culture's way of resolving problems. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 39. I learn new methods so I can be better at witnessing and serving refugees, immigrants, and international students. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 40. I promote the needs of the unreached and invite others to help me reach out. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |

Total Your Circled Points _____

Today's Date: _____

Called to Go

40 60

Grow While We Go

80 100 120

Multiply

140 160

Place your number on the above scale. The titles remind us that no matter how little we feel we know or can do, Jesus has **called us to go**. Secondly, we should not wait until we feel we have it all together as we will grow **while we go**. And finally, as we gain experience we are equipped to help others get involved and should seek to **multiply** by calling and training others.

Go back above and note those areas in which you especially want to grow. All of the concepts, attitudes, and abilities assessed in the mission survey are taught and encouraged in the Reach the World Next Door training. As you apply yourself to learning and implementing, you will definitely become more effective in your mission for Christ and your relationship with Him. You can keep this survey handy to use it in your prayers, asking God to make you an effective disciple-maker and multiplier among the unreached.

LESSON 12 ASSIGNED READING: POTENTIAL MISSION STEPS FOR CHURCH ADMINISTRATORS

1. Research your territory to know the pockets of highly unreached people groups.¹
2. Create and apply a priority scale for evangelistic action among these unreached people groups that gives them high priority if:
 - ✓ They are among the world's least reached. (They have between 0-2% evangelical Christians.)²
 - ✓ They have recently arrived. (Many refugees and international students who have just arrived have significantly more urgent needs and openness to the gospel than those who have been here for decades.)
3. Vote a specific call to action for each unreached people group in your area, including:
 - ✓ A prayer profile to enlist intercession and awareness.
 - ✓ An invitation to ministry and church planting among the group.³
 - ✓ A specific statement of financial need for this project.
4. Make the call to action available for your conference, union, and division so that workers, donors, and people who will pray can be effectively coordinated and involved with the ethno-linguistic groups, especially those on their hearts.
5. Repeatedly cast the vision among church members and pastors to finish the work in the world through local cross-cultural ministry.
6. Create a prayer and action committee at the conference and church level, specifically for local cross-cultural missions and make it a priority on evangelism committees.
7. Equip churches to become more lay-led in order to release their pastor to church plant among the unreached or to free up a salary for a church planter for those groups.⁴
8. Provide advisory support and ministry funds (evangelism materials, mileage, phone expense, etc.) to volunteer lay pastors who serve one or two groups.
 - ✓ A quarterly advisory meeting for each distinct ethno-linguistic group has been a successful approach.
 - ✓ Conference visits to lay pastors and church planters are very helpful as many cultures are shy or feel it is inappropriate to make an appointment with leaders or request help.
9. Partner between two or more conferences to provide a full-time salary for a church planter/district coordinator who can work in several conferences with that ethno-linguistic group.
10. Choose a multi-cultural city in your territory and assign one of the pastors to full-time cross-cultural ministry. Have the pastor work to equip the churches in the area to evangelize the immigrants, refugees, and international students. Let this work become the training ground for workers throughout the territory.

11. Create specific policies for church planters and lay pastors that motivate and empower those leaders and their ethno-linguistic groups to give and serve. Policies may include financial provisions, advisories, and training. Seek to avoid:
 - ✓ Either extreme of financially dependent church groups or groups that don't pass on tithe because they have waited too long for any paid leadership.
 - ✓ Workers who feel isolated from the pastoral staff and conference leadership.
 - ✓ Policies and actions based on the potential ability of a group to give tithe rather than the need of the gospel by unreached people groups.
12. Train future workers by encouraging people to sponsor immigrant and refugee members' children through Seventh-day Adventist education. Include also the educational needs of these pastors.
13. Foster ongoing discussion between various ethno-linguistic groups to improve the unity and partnership until everybody has a heart to reach everybody.
 - ✓ Create guidelines for host churches to know how best to support and partner with groups that meet in their facilities. Work towards leadership and self-sustainment by the specific ethno-linguistic group.
14. Place two trained volunteers in the university with the highest number of international students in your territory for a two-year stint. Have them partner with Seventh-day Adventists who are already attending there.

-
1. Ideas and web links on how to find out about internationals in your area are at: <http://www.reachtheworldnextdoor.com/99/find-internationals-near-you.html>
 2. There are 4,594 people groups in the world who are considered unreached. For definitions of the unreached examine joshuaproject.net. This site lists the countries and people groups who have virtually no gospel witness.
 3. "God calls for personal effort from those that know the truth. He calls for Christian families to go into communities that are in darkness and error, to go into foreign fields, to become acquainted with a new class of society, and to work wisely and perseveringly for the cause of the Master. To answer this call, self-sacrifice must be experienced" (White 1940, 55).
 4. "Instead of keeping the ministers at work for the churches that already know the truth, let the members of the churches say to these laborers: 'Go work for souls that are perishing in darkness. We ourselves will carry forward the services of the church. We will keep up the meetings, and, by abiding in Christ, will maintain spiritual life. We will work for souls that are about us, and we will send our prayers and our gifts to sustain the laborers in more needy and destitute fields'" (White 1925, 171).

LESSON 12 OPTIONAL ACTIVITY: FORGIVING OTHERS BRINGS GREAT BLESSINGS

Life has many disappointments and heartaches. Many of us struggle daily, feeling hurt by people who should have been safe and nurturing. Many of us even carry deep woundedness from abuse, neglect, and rejection—sometimes even from family members or church leaders. An additional burden that we often carry is the feelings of anger, hatred, and bitterness towards those who have hurt us. It feels just and right to be upset at the wrongs, yet we also know that these emotions can destroy us. Negative thoughts and feelings have made many people physically sick or mentally ill. Bitterness and unforgiveness towards an individual often negatively impact our other relationships. Hatred can even lead to revenge and murder. The choices we make to not forgive someone are like weeds in a beautiful garden. If ignored, they can get bigger and choke out everything beautiful. If we hide our feelings and do not deal with the issues, it is as if we have cut off the top of the weeds and left the roots in the ground. The feelings and thoughts will likely grow stronger until they spring up in some way to spoil the garden of our lives (Hebrews 12:15).

How do we get rid of such weeds? Learning to forgive others is a challenging but doable process. Many have found comfort and answers in the principles in the Bible. Our problems are of different types and severity. Some offenses based on misunderstandings can be solved in a short time. Other deep-seated wounds take much longer to heal. Let's determine to grow in our understanding and experience of God's healing ways.

- 1. Express our hurt and anger in healthy ways.** There are many prayers in the Psalms that make it clear God wants us to talk to Him about our feelings, even when we are angry. One example is Psalm 56. God is a safe person to share our concerns with because He knows everything about us, yet still loves us. He also has the power to help us deal with our thoughts, feelings, and situations. It is not healthy or helpful to keep our feelings to ourselves (Psalm 32:3). However, we can also cause real problems by speaking angrily (Proverbs 25:28) or gossiping to others (Proverbs 26:20-27). Many people have been significantly helped by talking to a trained counselor or a caring mentor. Others find it very helpful to write out their thoughts and feelings, and then find comfort through God's Word.
- 2. Focus on God's love and forgiveness.** When we are hurting and broken by what others have done to us, we need Jesus' healing love. "Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows.... The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed" (Isaiah 53:4-5). Jesus experienced horrific physical abuse, terrible betrayal by His closest friends, shame and embarrassment on the cross, and the desperate feelings of abandonment. He understands our pain. He can heal our hurt as we focus on His love and ask for healing. Besides this, "God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8). As we repent of our sins and ask for forgiveness, He freely forgives us and we find peace (Romans 8:1). When we know we are loved and forgiven, it makes it easier to forgive others (Ephesians 4:24). When we recognize that our sins killed God's Son, it humbles our hearts in realizing that we all are sinners who need to forgive each other (See the parable in Matthew 18:21-35). Focusing on Jesus' love helps us move towards forgiving others.

A strong and supportive group of friends can provide the non-judgmental, loving atmosphere in which a hurting or angry person can feel the forgiveness and love of God. We should seek out such people and be that kind of people to help each other experience God's love and be able to extend it towards others.

- 3. Understand the Difference Between a Forgiving Heart and Reconciliation.** Jesus expressed mercy, saying, "Father, forgive them," while the soldiers were still driving the nails in Jesus hands. However, God was not reconciled to any of them until they turned from their sins and repented. This is similar to our relationships. We can choose a heart of mercy and forgiveness towards those who have hurt us, but it would be safe to try

to reconcile with them because they continue to do what is wrong. Jesus said, "If your brother sins against you, rebuke him; and if he repents, forgive him" (Luke 17:3). We should humbly seek to work out our problems with each other whenever possible (Galatians 6:1-5). However, Jesus also recognized there are times we cannot reconcile without the help of others. He taught His church a process in which to hold people accountable who are doing wrong to others (Matthew 18:15-20). Some completely refuse to stop their sin and abuse and so separation, not reconciliation, is the only option.

- 4. Extend love to our enemies.** Even when hurtful people continue in their sin, Jesus still calls us to, "Love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you" (Matthew 5:43). Such kindness is impossible without God's transformation of our hearts. We need to confess our bitterness and unforgiveness to God, ask Him for a heart of love and forgiveness, then step out in faith to do good towards our enemies Jesus, with His huge heart of mercy, can live in our hearts, empowering us to forgive and extend kindness to those who have hurt us (Colossians 3:3, 8-14). Even if the person does not respond and refuses to be reconciled, we can be free from bitterness and unforgiveness, living a life of love.

You may wish to pray something like this:

Merciful God, Full of Forgiveness and Kindness, my heart hurts. I have been deeply wounded by someone I trusted. It was so wrong, so hurtful, so unnecessary. *(Tell God your pain. Speak out your disappointment).*

Thank You for sending Jesus to show me Your love and to experience my pain. He was beaten, mocked, and shamed. Still He said, "Father forgive them" and He forgave me too. Please heal me with Your love. I too have hurt You in many ways. It was my sins that killed Jesus. Please forgive me.

I know I should forgive those who have hurt me, but it feels so hard. I cannot do it on my own. Forgive me for my bitterness and anger towards them *(be specific about the persons and what they have done)*. Please give me a new heart, fill me with Your forgiveness towards them. I want justice. I want them to pay for what they have done. You love them and hope to redeem them. Please find a way to do that. If they do not respond, and continue to do what is wrong, I know that one day, when Jesus returns You will give them what they deserve and I do not need to take revenge. I surrender them into Your hands.

Now give me Your power so that I might not block You from reaching out to them with Your forgiveness. Love through me and help me to often pray for them. Thank You for Your gracious, forgiving heart and for answering my prayer. In Jesus' precious name, amen.

Once again we want to emphasize that forgiving others and inward healing is a process. It can be like an onion with many layers. Various events can often bring up memories that remind us of hurtful experiences, triggering negative thoughts and feelings. Each time we can use these various principles from God's Word to help us, releasing more of the pain and bitterness and receiving more of God's mercy and peace.

It is also important to recognize that in our multi-cultural world we will see forgiveness and reconciliation happening in different forms. Some cultures use a mediator, some make use of stories, and some solve differences through actions rather than words. Regardless, the biblical principles are the same, leading those who follow them to greater peace and release from bitterness.

FIELD REPORT #12



Name _____ Date Due _____

Email Address _____ Phone _____

Home Church _____ Team Number _____

EFFECTIVELY MANAGING CROSS-CULTURAL CONFLICT

1. The person with whom I used the principles of conflict management, how it went, and what I learned:
2. These are the people I spent time with this last week and what we did (keep updating a *Contact Log* or *Disciple Log* for each person or family and keep the sheets in a binder):
3. What I plan to do this next week to disciple my friend of another culture:
4. The friend or family member with whom I shared what I learned and invited to do the same:
5. What I learned and/or what I want to be involved in after reading *Lesson 12 Assigned Reading: Potential Mission Steps for Church Administrators*:
6. Someone or something I would like us to be praying about:
7. Things I want to remember or share with my team from the video clips, my completion of study #12 in *My Favorite Missionary*, and my focus on prayers for those who are "Non Religious" in *Praying for the World Next Door*.

Celebrating God's Glory and Seeking for More



MISSION OBJECTIVES

- A. I will choose a growth-mindset by continuing to learn how to care for and reach people of other cultures and religions.
- B. I will promote this training with others and coach a core group of four or more to reach out to others who are from unreached people groups.



TEAM CARE AND ACCOUNTABILITY (20 MINUTES)

1. What experiences did you have and what did you learn from applying conflict resolution principles?
2. What other experiences have you had in following up on your cross-cultural friendships. (Keep using and referring to your *Contact Log* or *Disciple Log*.)
3. What did you learn from study #12 in *My Favorite Missionary* and the video clips?
4. What needs or challenges are you facing that we can pray for?
5. Pray together especially for each other and the friends from other cultures whom you have met.



PRESENTATION (14:21 MINUTES)

WATCH: *Celebrating God's Glory and Seeking for More*. Take notes using the following outline.

1. The (a) _____ shall come to your light, and (b) _____ to the brightness of your rising (Isaiah 60:3).
2. For the earth will be (a) _____ with the knowledge of the (b) _____ of the Lord, as the waters (c) _____ the sea (Habakkuk 2:14).

3. *During the loud cry, the church, aided by the providential interpositions of her exalted Lord, will diffuse the knowledge of salvation so abundantly that light will be communicated to (a) _____ city and town. The earth will be filled with the knowledge of salvation. So abundantly will the renewing Spirit of God have crowned with success the intensely (b) _____ agencies, that the light of present truth will be seen flashing everywhere (White 1946, 694).*
4. *Let us know, let us pursue the (a) _____ of the Lord. His going forth is established as the morning; He will come to us like the (b) _____, like the latter and former rain to the earth (Hosea 6:3).*
5. *As he searched his heart, he seemed to be less and less, both in his own estimation and in the sight of God. It seemed to him that he was (a) _____, and that God was everything; and when he reached the point of renouncing self, while he clung to the Saviour as his (b) _____ strength and righteousness, the answer came (White 1891).*



DISCOVERY AND DISCUSSION (25 MINUTES)

1. **Read Luke 11:5-13.** In which ways does the neighbor who does not want to be bothered both reflect and contrast with the loving Father?
2. If God is very willing to give the Holy Spirit as the answer to world evangelization, why do we need to “keep on asking ... keep on seeking ... keep on knocking” (verse 9, NLT)?
3. As you think back over this experience, what can you praise God for as a team?
4. In what ways have you been blessed and grown during this time?
5. What would you like to do to share this experience with others in your church or beyond? Consider having a program at church to share your experiences and opportunities for members to get involved. You can find resources for a *Refugee Awareness Sabbath* at refugeeministries.org/events.

6. What could you do to disciple others to start a *Reach the World Next Door* group like yours? You will find resources to promote this program at reachtheworldnextdoor.com/training/online.

7. What have you learned today and how will you use it this week?

8. Discuss together further steps towards establishing a Discovery Group. Decide what needs to happen next.



TEAM PRAYER (10 MINUTES)

Pray for the multiplication of *Reach the World Next Door* groups; for more laborers for the great harvest of unreached people; for Jesus to be able to return soon!

Promises to Claim:

- ✔ *Therefore your gates shall be open continually; they shall not be shut day or night, that men may bring to you the wealth of the Gentiles, and their kings in procession.... A little one shall become a thousand, and a small one a strong nation. I, the Lord, will hasten it in its time (Isaiah 60:11, 22).*
- ✔ *The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few; therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest (Luke 10:2).*
- ✔ *I saw jets of light shining from cities and villages, and from the high places and the low places of the earth. God's word was obeyed, and as a result there were memorials for Him in every city and village. His truth was proclaimed throughout the world (White 1925, 112).*
- ✔ *Servants of God, with their faces lighted up and shining with holy consecration, will hasten from place to place to proclaim the message from heaven. By thousands of voices, all over the earth, the warning will be given. Miracles will be wrought, the sick will be healed, and signs and wonders will follow the believers. Satan also works, with lying wonders, even bringing down fire from heaven in the sight of men. Revelation 13:13. Thus the inhabitants of the earth will be brought to take their stand. The message will be carried not so much by argument as by the deep conviction of the Spirit of God (White 1911b, 612).*



ASSIGNMENTS (5 MINUTES)

1. Even though the 13 lessons are completed, it is important that at least weekly you review your *Disciple Log* and *Contact Log* and ask yourself: What will I do to develop this friendship or further disciple this believer? Just as with Jesus and His twelve, our work is not complete until those we are working with are mature and making disciples of others.
2. Take a few minutes to individually fill out the document *Feedback: Looking Back to Help Us Move Forward*.
3. Mobilize and Multiply. Decide together who in the group can start a new *Reach the World Next Door* team. Help each other promote it and pull together the team. God has gifted some individuals to especially be “multipliers.” Pray together until you know for sure who God is leading to help multiply others into this ministry and who needs to stay focused on serving people of cultural groups that are unreached, especially while starting the Discovery Group.
4. Complete study #13 in *My Favorite Missionary* and focus your prayers on “Tourist and Business Travelers” in *Praying for the World Next Door*.
5. Never stop growing and learning, studying Jesus’ method, salvation, and how to receive more of the Holy Spirit. Keep learning about cultures and missionary methods. Check the bibliography for some insightful books to read (this is not a complete recommendation of everything that is in the books listed).

Here is more video material that you can start with:

Lawrence Burns casts a huge vision not for merely adding members but multiplying trainers of trainers.



CELEBRATE GOD’S FAITHFULNESS THROUGH US (5 MINUTES)

This is a good time for the Team Leader to share the *Reach the World Next Door Certificate* with those who have completed all the assignments. He or she should encourage those who have not completed them until they finish and are able to receive the certificate.

The certificate is available at the end of the online training with adventistlearningcommunity.com or by providing evidence of completion to info@reachtheworldnextdoor.com.

FEEDBACK: LOOKING BACK TO HELP US MOVE FORWARD

At *Reach the World Next Door* we are praying for you and excited to hear what you have been doing. Please send the following to info@reachtheworldnextdoor.com.

Your name and email address:

1. What types of activities have you done with people of other cultures and religions?
2. What did you like best about the *Reach the World Next Door* training?
3. What did you learn and in what ways did you become more effective in your witnessing through this training?
4. What would you add, remove, or change in the program?
5. How will you continue doing mission work, especially as you follow-up with your interests and friends?

OTHER COMMENTS:

MISSION CHECKLIST

The group leader needs a *Mission Checklist* for each member of the team. During or after every meeting the leader should check the items for that lesson that have been completed, assessing from the *Team Care and Accountability* time, and by reviewing the *Field Report, Contact Log, and Disciple Log*, etc. If a member misses a meeting, he or she can watch the video and fill out the questions, showing the leader what has been accomplished.

The following must be completed to receive the *Reach the World Next Door* certificate.

Name:

Lesson 1

- Participated in the lesson, *Befriending the Unreached Next Door*.
- Identified who unreached people groups are and discovered who are the unreached nearby.
- Made one or more initial friendly contacts with people of other cultures and exchanged contact information to enable follow-up.
- Explored the website mylanguagemylife.com and has shared its resources with others, including people who speak languages other than English.
- Completed *Field Report #1*, including video clips and sections from *My Favorite Missionary* and *Praying for the World Next Door*.

Lesson 2

- Participated in the lesson, *Enjoying and Navigating Cultural Diversity*.
- Learned more about a person and his or her culture through asking questions in the context of friendship-building activities.
- Learned to describe, interpret, and evaluate (D.I.E.) cultural differences in a way that leads to understanding and deeper relationships.
- Completed *Field Report #2*, including video clips and sections from *My Favorite Missionary* and *Praying for the World Next Door*.
- Completed *Field Activity: Cultural Study*.

Lesson 3

- Participated in the lesson, *Coming Close to the Heart of Refugees*.
- Learned more about the challenges of living as a refugee.
- Completed *Field Report #3*, including video clips and sections from *My Favorite Missionary* and *Praying for the World Next Door*.
- Completed *Field Activity: Listen to Their Moving Stories*.

Lesson 4

- Participated in the lesson, *Tangibly Helping New Arrivals*.
- Gained understanding of the biblical emphasis on wholistic ministry.

- Researched examples of what people and communities are doing to help refugees, immigrants, and international students.
- Tangibly helped someone from another country who has moved nearby.
- Completed *Field Report #4*, including video clips and sections from *My Favorite Missionary* and *Praying for the World Next Door*.

Lesson 5

- Participated in the lesson, *Being a Spirit-Filled Disciple*.
- Gained a deeper understanding of the impact of discipleship training, conversion, and the Holy Spirit on the ability to witness.
- Experienced a time of retreat in order to draw closer to God.
- Completed *Field Report #5*, including video clips and sections from *My Favorite Missionary* and *Praying for the World Next Door*.

Lesson 6

- Participated in the lesson, *Building Bridges to People of Other Religions*.
- Asked effective questions that helped to listen to and understand people's needs, values, and beliefs.
- Drew closer to people of other religions by affirming the areas they have in common.
- Completed *Field Report #6*, including video clips and sections from *My Favorite Missionary* and *Praying for the World Next Door*.
- Completed *Field Activity: Worship and Beliefs*.

Lesson 7

- Participated in the lesson, *Sharing Life-Changing Stories and Experiences*.
- Shared his or her testimony and other faith-building stories with people who are not Christians.
- Invited someone of another religion to experience God's love, power, and teaching through various activities, prayers, studies, etc. to help him or her grow.
- Completed *Field Report #7*, including video clips and sections from *My Favorite Missionary* and *Praying for the World Next Door*.
- Completed *Field Activity: Collection of Stories and Experiences*.

Lesson 8

- Participated in the lesson, *Leading Up Step-by-Step*.
- Gained a deeper understanding of Jesus' death and resurrection as it relates to people of various backgrounds and world religions.
- Shared the story of Jesus, especially His death and resurrection, with friends from other cultures and invited them to experience salvation.
- Discovered various Bible study approaches that have been prepared for the religious backgrounds of his or her friends and invited them to learn.
- Completed *Field Report #8*, including video clips and sections from *My Favorite Missionary* and *Praying for the World Next Door*.

Lesson 9

- Participated in the lesson, *Making Disciples Like Jesus*.
- Gained a deeper understanding of what it means to be a disciple and Jesus' method of making disciples.
- Made a plan of discipleship and began to follow it for his or her friends from other cultures who are responding to the good news.
- Completed *Field Report #9*, including video clips and sections from *My Favorite Missionary* and *Praying for the World Next Door*.

Lesson 10

- Participated in the lesson, *Partnering to Redeem the Culture*.
- Learned more about how the Bible values, confronts, and transforms culture.
- Prayerfully examined the culture of those he or she is discipling and together examined their cultures in light of Bible principles to help them grow more like Jesus.
- Completed *Field Report #10*, including video clips and sections from *My Favorite Missionary* and *Praying for the World Next Door*.
- Completed *Field Activity: Search Me and My Culture*.

Lesson 11

- Participated in the lesson, *Building the International Body of Believers*.
- Seeks to improve the quality of his or her church group by applying more of the biblical principles for becoming a Spirit-filled church.
- Started a Discovery Group that includes non-Christians or began supporting a church plant among a specific language group.
- Completed *Field Report #11*, including video clips and sections from *My Favorite Missionary* and *Praying for the World Next Door*.

Lesson 12

- Participated in the lesson, *Effectively Managing Cross-Cultural Conflict*.
- Used biblical principles for resolving conflict while incorporating the various ways cultures solve differences.
- Completed *Field Report #12*, including video clips and sections from *My Favorite Missionary* and *Praying for the World Next Door*.

Lesson 13

- Participated in the lesson, *Celebrating God's Glory and Seeking for More*.
- Completed the Feedback document.
- Committed to choosing a growth mindset by continuing to learn how to care for and reach people of other cultures and religions.
- Committed to promote this training with others or coach a core group of four or more to reach out to others who are from unreached people groups.

.....
CONTACT LOG
.....



Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Email Address _____

Language(s) [Note specific dialects] _____ Occupation _____

Background Information (culture, personal history, religion, health, etc.)

Family (names, ages, how related, occupations)

Important Dates (birthdays, anniversary, cultural celebrations)

| | |
|------|----------------------------------|
| Date | Topics Discussed/Prayer Requests |
| | Follow-up Plan |

| | |
|------|----------------------------------|
| Date | Topics Discussed/Prayer Requests |
| | Follow-up Plan |

| | |
|------|----------------------------------|
| Date | Topics Discussed/Prayer Requests |
| | Follow-up Plan |

| | |
|------|----------------------------------|
| Date | Topics Discussed/Prayer Requests |
| | Follow-up Plan |

| | |
|------|----------------------------------|
| Date | Topics Discussed/Prayer Requests |
| | Follow-up Plan |

| | |
|------|----------------------------------|
| Date | Topics Discussed/Prayer Requests |
| | Follow-up Plan |

| | |
|------|----------------------------------|
| Date | Topics Discussed/Prayer Requests |
| | Follow-up Plan |

| | |
|------|----------------------------------|
| Date | Topics Discussed/Prayer Requests |
| | Follow-up Plan |

| | |
|------|----------------------------------|
| Date | Topics Discussed/Prayer Requests |
| | Follow-up Plan |

| | |
|------|----------------------------------|
| Date | Topics Discussed/Prayer Requests |
| | Follow-up Plan |

DISCIPLE LOG



Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Email Address _____

1. Vine-and-branch closeness and dependence on Jesus (John 15:1-16; Mark 3:13-14).

What can I do to help him/her spend meaningful, impactful time with Jesus in Bible study, prayer, and heartfelt worship?

IDEAS

DATE COMPLETED

2. Love Jesus more than anyone else (Luke 14:26; Matthew 10:37).

What can I do to help him/her respect and listen to Jesus more than any friend or family member?

IDEAS

DATE COMPLETED

3. Love Jesus more than any desire (Luke 14:27; Matthew 16:24-27). How can I help him/her value God's commandments and way of living more than any desire she/he has, in areas like relationships, entertainment, food, drink, etc.?

IDEAS

DATE COMPLETED

4. Love Jesus more than any possession (Luke 14:33; Matthew 19:16-30).

How can I help him/her enjoy being generous with his time and money for those in need rather than being wasteful and spending primarily on himself/herself?

IDEAS

DATE COMPLETED

5. Love Jesus through suffering, even to death (Matthew 10: 24-25; Luke 14:26-27).

How can I help her/him be courageous through trials, becoming humble, trusting, and thankful?

IDEAS

DATE COMPLETED

6. Obey Jesus' teaching through the power of His creative word (John 8:31-36).

How can I help him/her have victory over any bad habits the he/she is fighting?

What Bible promise might really help?

IDEAS

DATE COMPLETED

7. Love people like Jesus did (John 13:34-35; Luke 6:40 and context).

How can I help her/him forgive anyone she's/he's upset with and care for her/his family members, church members, and others like Jesus would?

IDEAS

DATE COMPLETED

8. Tell God's stories (Matthew 13:52; Mark 3:14).

How can I help him/her tell others God's stories and his/her own new experiences?

IDEAS

DATE COMPLETED

9. Set people free from sickness and Satan's power (Mark 3:15, Mark 16:17-18).

How can I help her/him do tangible things to help others?

IDEAS

DATE COMPLETED

10. Make disciples of all the nations (Matthew 28:18-20).

How can I help him/her make disciples of Jesus as I have done for him/her?

IDEAS

DATE COMPLETED

ANSWER SHEET

LESSON 2

- 1a creative
- 1b diversity
- 2a children (NKJV sons)
- 2b faith
- 3 Description
- 4 Interpretation
- 5 Evaluation
- 6a dummy
- 6b they
- 6c first
- 6d last
- 6e sin
- 7a all
- 7b all
- 7c save

LESSON 6

- 1a Listen
- 1b similarities
- 1c differences
- 1d stories
- 1e experience
- 2a Agree
- 2b harmony
- 2c sow
- 2d glory
- 3 See presentation
- 4a confusion
- 4b religion
- 5 See presentation

LESSON 7

- 1a Listen
- 1b similarities
- 1c differences
- 1d stories
- 1e experience
- 2 parable
- 3a friends
- 3b great
- 3c things
- 3d compassion

- 4a confession
- 4b effectual
- 4c testimony
- 4d irresistible
- 5a direct
- 5b personal
- 5c reliance

LESSON 10

- 1 God's invisible attributes, His eternal power and Godhead
- 2 the law
- 3a teachers
- 3b Light
- 3c true
- 3d reflect
- 4a practices
- 4b sinful
- 4c evil
- 4d spirits
- 4e Creator
- 4f Protector
- 4g Savior
- 4h replace
- 4i better

LESSON 12

- 1a one
- 1b one
- 1c world
- 2a love
- 2b good
- 2c merciful
- 3a reclaimed
- 3b winning
- 3c transforming
- 4a Bible
- 4b closely
- 4c eye
- 4d eye

LESSON 13

- 1a Gentiles
- 1b kings
- 2a filled
- 2b glory
- 2c cover
- 3a every
- 3b active
- 4a knowledge
- 4b rain
- 5a nothing
- 5b only

REFERENCE LIST

- Appleby, Jerry L.** 1986. *Missions Have Come Home to America*. Kansas City, MO: Beacon Hill Press of Kansas City.
- Bauer, Bruce**, ed. 2006. *Adventist Responses to Cross-Cultural Mission*. Vol 1. Berrien Springs, MI: Department of World Mission.
- , ed. 2007. *Adventist Responses to Cross-Cultural Mission*. Vol 2. Berrien Springs, MI: Department of World Mission.
- , ed. 2011. "Mission to Immigrants." *JAMS* 7.2: 1-140.
- Bauman, Stephan, Matthew Soerens, and Dr. Issam Smeir.** 2016. *Seeking Refuge: On the Shores of the Global Refugee Crisis*. Chicago: Moody.
- Baumgartner, Erich.** 2011. "Syllabus of Ministering Across Cultures." Berrien Springs, MI: Andrews University.
- Brynjolfson, Robert, and Jonathan Lewis.** 2006. *Integral Ministry Training: Design and Evaluation*. Pasadena, CA: William Carey Library.
- Das, Rupen, and Brent Hamoud.** 2017. *Strangers in the Kingdom*. Carlisle, UK: Langham Global Library.
- Doss, Cheryl.** 2009. *Passport to Mission*. Edited by Erich W. Baumgartner, Jon L. Dybdahl, Pat Gustin, Bruce C. Moyer. 3rd ed. Berrien Springs, MI: Institute of World Mission.
- Doss, Gorden R.** 2018. *Introduction to Adventist Mission*. Silver Springs, MD: Institute of World Mission.
- Dresser, Norine.** 2005. *Multicultural Manners*. Rev. ed. Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley & Sons.
- Eims, Leroy.** 1978. *The Lost Art of Disciple Making*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan.
- Elmer, Duane.** 1993. *Cross-Cultural Conflict*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity.
- , 2006. *Cross-Cultural Servanthood*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity.
- Evans, Tom.** 2011. *Steps to Church Planting: From Inception to Launch*. Berrien Springs, MI: North American Division Evangelism Institute.
- Griswold, Scott.** 2007. *Reaching and Winning Buddhists*. Silver Springs, MD: International Institute of Christ Ministries.
- Hiebert, Paul G.** 2008. *Transforming Worldviews*. Grand Rapids: Baker.
- Johnstone, Patrick, and Jason Mandryk.** 2010. *Operation World*. 7th ed. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity.
- Lane, Patty.** 2002. *A Beginner's Guide to Crossing Cultures*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity.
- Lingenfelter, Sherwood G.** 2008. *Leading Cross-Culturally*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic.
- Marie, Jeannie.** 2018. *Across the Street and Around the World*. Nashville, TN: Nelson.
- Moorman, Donald.** 1993. *Harvest Waiting*. St. Louis, MO: Concordia.
- Mummert, Ronald J. and Jeff Bach.** 1992. *Refugee Ministry in the Local Congregation*. Scottsdale, PA: Herald.
- Payne, J.D.** 2012. *Strangers Next Door*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity.
- Phillips, Tom, Bob Norsworthy, and Terry Whalin.** 1997. *The World at Your Door*. Minneapolis, MN: Bethany House.
- Pillai, Rajenda K.** 2003. *Reaching the World in Our Own Backyard*. Colorado Springs, CO: WaterBrook.
- Pollard, Leslie N.** 2000. *Embracing Diversity*. Hagerstown, MD: Review and Herald.
- Seelye, Ned H.** 1996. *Experiential Activities for Intercultural Learning*. Boston, MA: Intercultural Press.
- Smith, Donald K.** 1992. *Creating Understanding*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan.
- Stringer, Donna M., and Patricia A. Cassidy.** 2003. *52 Activities for Exploring Values Differences*. Boston, MA: Intercultural Press.
- , 2009. *52 Activities for Improving Cross-Cultural Communication*. Boston, MA: Intercultural Press.
- Torres, Louis R.** 2001. *Gaining Decisions for Christ: A How-To Manual*. Hagerstown, MD: Review and Herald.

- Watson, David L. and Paul D. Watson.** 2014. *Contagious Disciple Making*. Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson.
- White, Ellen G.** 1875. *Testimonies for the Church*. Vol 3. Mountain View, CA: Pacific Press.
- , 1888. "The Need of Love." *The Review and Herald*. August 28, 1888.
- , 1889. *Testimonies for the Church*. Vol. 5 Mountain View, CA: Pacific Press.
- , 1898. *The Desire of Ages*. Mountain View, CA: Pacific Press.
- , 1891. "Lessons From the Time of Elijah." *The Review and Herald*. May 26, 1891.
- , 1892. *Address To Ministers*. Pamphlet 118.
- , 1893. "Christ's Example in Prayer." *The Signs of the Times*, July 24, 1893.
- , 1896. *Thoughts from the Mount of Blessings*. Mountain View, CA: Pacific Press.
- , 1900. *Christ's Object Lessons*. Hagerstown, MD: Review & Herald.
- , 1902. "An Appeal for More Earnest Effort." *The Review and Herald*. December 30, 1902.
- , 1903. *Education*. Mountain View, CA: Pacific Press.
- , 1911a. *Acts of the Apostles*. Mountain View, CA: Pacific Press.
- , 1911b. *The Great Controversy*. Mountain View, CA: Pacific Press.
- , 1914. "The Foreigners in America." *The Review and Herald*. October 29, 1914.
- , 1915. *Gospel Workers*. Washington, DC: Review & Herald.
- , 1925. *Christian Service*. Hagerstown, MD: Review & Herald.
- , 1932. *Medical Ministry*. Mountain View, CA: Pacific Press.
- , 1940. *Counsels on Stewardship*. Washington, DC: Review & Herald.
- , 1946. *Evangelism*. Washington D.C.: Review & Herald.
- , 1958. *Selected Messages*. Vol. 1. Washington, DC: Review & Herald.
- , 1987. *The Ellen G. White 1888 Materials*. Washington, DC: Ellen G. White Estate.