

ENTERING MULTIPLE CULTURES

Wearing Different Hats:

- Transcultural: Engaging internationals from multiple cultures and worldviews simultaneously
- Historically, most missionaries moved from their home culture to their new host culture and engaged in cross-cultural ministry
- Global migration in its various forms have created a need for Christians who desire to share their faith in transcultural contexts
- Transcultural effectiveness corresponds to understanding and engaging multiple cultures simultaneously (Wearing different hats to be effective with diverse students)

Entering New Cultures Looks Like:

- The square-headed American enters the round-headed world of other cultures
- Some who move from one culture into another, or into multiple cultures, remain “square-headed” – they resist adapting to the new culture to fit in, but also to have greater access to the hearts and minds of those they are trying to reach
- Others do fit in, and often have an effective, transcultural ministry
- The goal should be a willingness to jettison negotiable values and become stop-sign headed
- It’s about being willing to do things that are uncomfortable for the sake of the gospel

Understanding These New Cultures

- It all starts by spending time with them, inviting them into our homes
- Example of Dylan, 11 year old boy who thought he was the reincarnation of King Tut
- There are 3 primary worldviews
 - Guilt-Innocence
 - Innocent under the law until proven guilty
 - We have inherited this Western view of the world from the Romans
 - Honor-Shame
 - The Arab world is based on this worldview, most of the Asian world as well
 - Video examples illustrate the communal aspect of honor/shame and how honor is held high
 - Fear-Power
 - Power can be understood in many ways: physical, political, economic, social, and religious
 - The secular worldview tends to regard all power as originating from within the material world
 - In contrast, primal worldviews see such powers not only as being real within the empirical world but as having their primary origin outside of the visible world
 - Example from news clip of shaman performing ritual outside criminal investigation building