

BECOMING TRANSCULTURAL

Transcultural: Engaging internationals from multiple cultures and worldviews simultaneously

Traits of Effective Transcultural Ministry

- Attitudes: Foundational for effective transcultural workers, and without them the other competencies would be non-existent or underdeveloped
 - Learning - Ongoing, lifelong learning
 - Postponing judgement - Resisting the temptation to criticize another countries' people, culture, food, or even government policies, for the sake of the gospel
 - Inquisitiveness - Specific focus on the details and nuances of the particularities of the language, culture, worldview, or people
- Behaviors: Practiced in daily ministry
 - Adapating
 - Welcoming
 - Loving
 - Advocating
 - Eating - Adventurous eaters, expanding their tastes by experimenting with exotic foods
 - Listening
 - Sharing - Refers to not only sharing your life, your space, your possessions, your time, but especially your faith
 - Playing - Refers to our willingness to play the games of other cultures
 - Practicing
- Experiences:
 - Developing cross-cultural friendships
 - Discovering - A fearless quest to learn new worlds
 - Knowing
 - Knowledge, wielded humbly and demonstrated selectively
 - Utilize knowledge to gain further access to the hearts and minds of their international friends

“Heterotopic Space”

- Heterotopia is where things are different – that is, a collection whose members have few or no intelligible connections with one another
 - Provide the context and environment for relationships with international students to flourish
 - Characterized by a sense of neutrality, acceptance, and freedom for everyone – regardless of nationality, ethnicity, religion, language or race – to be themselves
 - Another word for this is cosmopolitan localism, your ministry should be cosmopolitan with a local flair
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