

UNDERSTANDING AND REACHING HISPANIC IMMIGRANTS

Be Intentional

- Learn about their faith, beliefs, and practices.
- Throughout Latin America there are many Catholics.
- Take some time to learn about the differences between Catholicism and Protestantism.

Create Opportunities at Church

- Many will come seeking to connect to a church or your neighborhood.
- Create spaces for them by sharing the work, allowing them to take on responsibilities.
- If we are doing everything for them they won't have a chance to own the church.

Hospitality Is Paramount

- To share ourselves in our daily life really communicates care and love to immigrants.
- They come from a family based system where their families are composed of more members than their immediate families.
- Cook together, pray together, clean together, move together through the day.
- At gatherings you should provide food and music when possible.

High Value of Family

- During holidays they usually try to spend time with whatever family they can.
- If you find immigrants that can't afford to leave don't hesitate to invite them over to your festivities alongside your family.

Catholic Background

- Think about including liturgical prayer and be intentional about helping Catholics know what to expect at ministry activities.
- If you take them to church, explain ahead of time what is going to happen and why your traditions are important to you.
- Do not make them pray out loud in the first meeting.
- Make space for them to receive and give in the way they are comfortable.
- If you are taking them to church or a home bible study, use language to describe the ministry as inclusive and that can be easily understood.

Building Relationships

- Ask about their faith or beliefs.
 - Exchange phone numbers or even social media contacts. Keep contacting and reaching out to them after initiating a connection.
 - Aim to build trust by sharing how Jesus has changed your personal life. Just telling immigrants about the Gospel is not enough to build relationships.
 - If you want to meet newly arrived immigrants, seek out the places where they transit through in your communities.
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