



WON'T YOU BE MY NEIGHBOR?

Crossing Cultures July 14th / July 15th

Speaker: **Campus Pastors**

Scripture: **Acts 15-1-35**

Sermon Summary:

Crossing cultures can happen in the time it takes to cross a street, peer over to another cubicle, or glance over to the treadmill next to us. How do we close the gap? Neighboring well begins with facing our fears, leveling the walls of division, and suspending assumptions in favor of listening, understanding, and moving towards others.

Sermon Series Questions:

1. What did God reveal to you?
2. What are you going to do about it?
3. What is one element of God's character you learned?

Campus Specific Questions:

1. Before we talk about culture, we need to acknowledge and own the culture we come from – the textures, nuances, perspectives, and norms. What cultures did you come from? How does this affect the way you see the world?
2. Take a moment to examine your relationships. Who are the “others” in your life? Are they someone with a different personality, race & ethnicity, gender, class, or religion than you? And how do you perceive them?
3. Identify one person who you think transcends cultures well? What can you learn from them?
4. How can we actively engage people who are different from us and cross cultures?
5. As we cross cultures the Spirit must lead us as we lean into the tensions of diversity. To whom is the Spirit leading you to and how is the Spirit leading you to engage?

Activate Challenge

Initiating the Journey:

Crossing cultures involves taking a journey. An emotional, spiritual, and intellectual journey that always begins with a physical journey. Take some time to intentionally engage with another culture. Here are some ideas:

- Attend a cross-cultural event.
- As a friend to share a meal from their culture and if they'd be willing to share stories from their heritage. Be willing to share your stories as well.
- Visit a religious space different than your own, with the goal to learn and build relational bridges. Process this experience with your group.
- Share different cultural experiences in your small group or community.

The Cultural Intelligence Difference:

Check out David Livermore's work on cultural intelligence through his book, *The Cultural Intelligence Difference*, and his blog, <http://davidlivermore.com/blog/>. According to Livermore, "at its core, **cultural intelligence is about finding the equilibrium between adapting to the norms and preferences of others without losing ourselves in the process.**" His book includes a Cultural Q self-assessment. You can find Chapter 1 of Livermore's book here: <http://davidlivermore.com/blog/wp-content/uploads/2011/03/CQ-Difference-Chapter-1.pdf>

Voices Self-Assessment:

Challenge your group members to take some time this week to ask themselves: (1) What voices do you have in your life, (2) Who wrote the last five books you read, (3) Who hosted the last five podcasts you listened to, and (4) Who sits at your table?

RESOURCES

VIDEO: Racial Justice Panel Discussion – The Justice Conference

Rev. Otis Moss, Dr. Soong-chan Rah, Rev. Traci Blackmon, Dr. Arla Sutter, PS Michael McBride, & Gabriel Salguero
<https://vimeo.com/131112194>

VIDEO: The Gentrification of Christianity – The Q Conference

Sho Baraka
<https://qideas.org/videos/gentrification-of-christianity/>

VIDEO: Mark Charles – The Justice Conference

Mark Charles
<https://vimeo.com/171579183>