



CULTURE COLLISION

This role play enables people to experience first hand what it is like to move to another culture. It is lots of fun as well as being educational!

Participants: The attendees divide into two (or more) groups, each group representing a different culture.

Process:

1. The two groups meet separately for 10 minutes or so to understand what their culture is, how it will be expressed, give it a name and develop some greetings and other behaviours, etc. (See the handouts below, one for each group. If more than two groups, develop a culture for the third group.)
2. One group become the “host” and the other the “visitors”. The “visitors”, on their initial visit, impose their ways on the host culture. (If you have time, change the groups over, and do the same again).
3. Re-enact the two sets of interaction, this time with the “visitors” trying to learn the host culture and adapt to it, rather than imposing their culture on others.
4. Discuss what it was like in each circumstance, and think about how this applies to going to people of another culture to share about Jesus – whether that is people down the road or across the world.

See below for the handouts to be given to each group.



Culture 1 handout

You are very laid back and even appear lazy to others. You take life very easily and time is no problem. You are a gentle, submissive people with a lot of grace and movement in your gestures and speech. When guests approach, you put them in the superior position and are apologetic in the way you treat them.

Instruction Sheet

Culture expresses the values and view of the world (worldview) of the people in it. Give your culture an appropriate name, but do not tell this to the people of the other culture. Knowing the sort of people you are, as a group work out appropriate behaviour for visiting each others homes. You will want a sequence to follow for this. Be as verbal as you want to be and create appropriate gestures and routines that to be used by all members of your group. Be careful that the way you express yourself reflects your culture. Be creative – you don't have to stick to any known form of greeting, etc., but make up a new form of greeting, e.g. tapping people on the head.

Elements of your behaviour to be agreed will include:

- A greeting as another group approaches from a distance
- Appropriate greeting close up
- An invitation for guests to come into your place
- An invitation for them to sit down
- An invitation for them to partake of food
- A way to indicate to them that the visit is over
- A way to express your dislike of certain behaviour
- A way to say good-bye

Assign appropriate roles to members of your group and practise the above. Get to it for it won't be long until you go to another group or one comes to you.





Culture 2 Handout

You are a very energetic and full-on group. You love hugging and expressing your emotions or excitement. You are not known as being humble but you really desire as a culture to help others get into life and become more effective at expressing themselves.

Instruction Sheet

Culture expresses the values and view of the world (worldview) of the people in it. Give your culture an appropriate name, but do not tell this to people of the other culture. Knowing the sort of people you are, as a group work out appropriate behaviour for visiting each other's homes. You will want a sequence to follow for this. Be as verbal as you want to be and create appropriate gestures and routines that are used by members of your group. Be careful that the way you express yourself reflects your culture. Be creative – you don't have to stick to any known form of greeting, etc., but make up a new form of greeting, e.g. turning your back and sticking your leg out to the other person.

Elements of your behaviour to be agreed will include:

- A greeting as another group approach from a distance
- Appropriate greeting close up
- An invite for guests to come into your place
- An invite for them to sit down
- An invite for them to partake of food
- A way to indicate to them that the visit is over
- A way to express your dislike of certain behaviour
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Assign appropriate roles to members of your group and practise the above. Get to it for it won't be long until you go to another group or one comes to you.

