

WORLD & DOMESTIC MISSIONS

COURSE #642



MISSIONS & CULTURE SHOCK

It takes more than a long jet flight to make a missionary.



MISSIONS & CULTURE SHOCK

It would be wonderful if every Christian could have the experience of visiting another country so as to understand the feelings of those who have.



MISSIONS & CULTURE SHOCK

1 CORINTHIANS 9:22

CULTURE SHOCK CAN START AT THE FIRST...

KISS

HANDSHAKE

WAVE

BOW

CURTSEY

HUG



MISSIONS & CULTURE SHOCK

DEFINING TERMS:

1 PETER 2:11-12

SOCIETY - a group of mutually interacting individuals, regardless of size, that expresses & transmits a particular culture

CULTURE – all learned behavior which is socially acquired; material & nonmaterial traits passed from one generation to another



MISSIONS & CULTURE SHOCK

DEFINING TERMS:

1 PETER 2:11-12

CULTURE SHOCK - A sudden agitation of the mental or emotional sensibilities... when an individual experiences the clash of his cultural way with that of another people



MISSIONS & CULTURE SHOCK

DEFINING TERMS:

1 PETER 2:11-12

PSYCHOLOGY – the study of the individual personality

SOCIOLOGY – the study of groups & group behavior



MISSIONS & CULTURE SHOCK

DEFINING TERMS:

1 PETER 2:11-12

IDENTIFICATION – EMPATHETIC
entering into the life of another

COMMUNICATION – the process by
which meanings are exchanged
between individuals through a
common system of symbols



REALITY OF CULTURE SHOCK

STAGES OF CULTURE SHOCK

1. AWE: THE HONEYMOON STAGE
2. AGGRESSIVENESS: THE HOSTILITY STAGE
3. ARROGANCE: THE SUPERIORITY STAGE
4. APPRECIATION: THE RECOVERY STAGE
5. ADJUSTED: THE IDENTIFICATION STAGE



REALITY OF CULTURE SHOCK

AREAS OF CULTURE SHOCK

- A. MATERIAL** – sights, sounds, smells, tastes, & even touches
- B. SOCIAL** – language, diet, health, physical environment, climate, etc.
- C. RELIGIOUS**



REALITY OF CULTURE SHOCK

SYMPTOMS OF CULTURE SHOCK

RELATING TO THE MISSIONARY

Excessive concern over germs & illness

Fear of physical contact with locals

Absent-minded “tropical stare”

Homesickness

Rejection of self



REALITY OF CULTURE SHOCK

SYMPTOMS OF CULTURE SHOCK

RELATING TO OTHERS

Rejection of the host country

Rejection of homeland; 'going native'

Rejection of people who sent the missionary

Rejection of the Lord's church

Rejection of God



REALITY OF CULTURE SHOCK

CULTURE SHOCK & MISSIONARY MOTIVES

Life's biggest decisions require proper motives.

People who do good for bad reasons seldom endure.

WHY?



REALITY OF CULTURE SHOCK

CULTURE SHOCK & MISSIONARY MOTIVES

PROVERBS 20:5

WHY?

DECIDE TO BE A MISSIONARY ■

To answer this takes soul-searching honesty.
To adjust motives takes humility & courage.



REALITY OF CULTURE SHOCK

CULTURE SHOCK & MISSIONARY MOTIVES

PROVERBS 20:5

IMPROPER MISSIONARY MOTIVES

1. ESCAPING FROM THE CHURCH AT HOME
2. SECURITY FOR SELF
3. PITY FOR UNFORTUNATE BACKWARD PEOPLE
4. ADVENTURISM
5. LEGALISTIC ATTITUDE
6. PRIDE

RESULTS IN...

- A. REJECTION
- B. INFECTION
- C. DEJECTION



REALITY OF CULTURE SHOCK

CULTURE SHOCK & MISSIONARY MOTIVES

PROVERBS 20:5

INSUFFICIENT MISSIONARY MOTIVES

1. A DESIRE TO REDUCE PHYSICAL HARDSHIPS
2. A FASCINATION WITH CULTURES
3. A CONCERN FOR PEOPLE

CAN TURN AN EVANGELIST INTO MERELY A...

- A. PHILANTHROPIST
- B. TOURIST
- C. DEFEATIST



REALITY OF CULTURE SHOCK

CULTURE SHOCK & MISSIONARY MOTIVES

PROVERBS 20:5

INDISPENSABLE MISSIONARY MOTIVES

2 CORINTHIANS 5:10-15

1. LOYALTY TO CHRIST 5:10-11
2. LOVE FOR CHRIST 5:14
3. LIVING FOR CHRIST 5:15



REALITY OF CULTURE SHOCK

CULTURE SHOCK & MISSIONARY METHODS

1 CORINTHIANS 9:22

IDENTIFICATION IS VITAL TO WINNING SOULS

FAILURE TO ADJUST CULTURALLY CAN LEAD TO...

FAILURE TO KNOW THE PEOPLE & THE CULTURE...

FAILURE TO IDENTIFY WITH THE PEOPLE.

CAN LEAD TO PATERNALISM.



REALITY OF CULTURE SHOCK

CULTURE SHOCK & MISSIONARY METHODS

1 CORINTHIANS 9:22

PATERNALISM:

...SEPARATES FROM DAY-TO-DAY CULTURE...

...ELEVATES THE MISSIONARY TO FATHER STATUS...

...HE REGULATES LOCAL CONVERTS' CONDUCT...

...HE DICTATES THE FINAL WORD IN DECISIONS...

...HE CREATES DEPENDENCY UPON HIMSELF...



REALITY OF CULTURE SHOCK

CULTURE SHOCK & SELF-DISCOVERY

1 CORINTHIANS 9:22

PROVERBS 12:15

PROVERBS 21:2

PROVERBS 18:17

PROVERBS 18:2

PROVERBS 1:5

MATTHEW 7:12



REMEDY OF CULTURE SHOCK

MISSIONARIES NEED TIME FOR
PROPER COMMUNICATION.

1 CORINTHIANS 9:22

MISSIONARIES NEED TRAINED FOR
PROPER ORIENTATION.

EXPERIENCE NEEDS TO BE...

- A. INTEGRATED
- B. INTENSIVE
- C. ISOLATING
- D. INTROSPECTIVE



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