

God's world

How will they hear?

We want our families to become lifelong learners in every area. This includes learning from people of other cultures. God created a vast array of cultures and desires to see all people love and worship Him, but He cannot be loved if He is not known! Learning about cultural differences will equip us to become better communicators of the gospel.



Romans 10:14 (NIV)

"How can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them?"

Study it

Read Acts 17:16–32, the account of Paul among the Greeks in Athens. What did the people think of Paul's God at first? How did Paul use what he learned about Greek culture to tell them about Jesus? Note Paul's words in verses 26–27. Did God purposefully put us in the cultures and countries where we live? Why?

Experience it

- ▶ Play the telephone game to experience how easily a message can be changed as it gets passed on. Practice telling and retelling a Bible story. Try to remain accurate each time.
- ▶ Introduce your family to other cultures. Visit an international market. Cook ethnic recipes. Attend a cultural event in your community. Read stories set in different cultures. Learn a worship song in a different language. Talk about what is unique and interesting about the cultures you experienced.

Discuss it

- 1 How would you know if someone is from another culture? (food, language, customs, etc.)
- 2 Why do you think God created different cultures?
- 3 How does understanding what people think and how they live help us clearly tell people about Jesus?

Map it

In some cultures, believers in Jesus Christ pray aloud, all at the same time! To experience what this is like, have each family member choose a country on the map. Pray – out loud, at the same time, with boldness – that the gospel message would be heard clearly.