

God's world

How will they worship?

Breakthrough in church planting occurs when gospel seeds, planted in the soil of a new culture, bear fruit. If believers try to transplant their own church traditions into a new culture, they could create barriers that make breakthrough in church planting difficult. Our family needs to understand that God loves being worshiped in diverse ways. Worship that looks different from what we are used to is not necessarily wrong. The core issue is, "Are believers growing in obedience to the commands of Jesus?"



Matthew 28:19-20 (NIV)

"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, until the very end of the age."

Study it

Ask God to give you insight into what a disciple is through this story of the rich young ruler in Mark 10:17-22. Press on beyond the obvious for deeper insights into our own lives. The young man was following all the rules, but he lacked one thing...following Jesus! With Matthew 28:18-20 in mind, what are the characteristics of a disciple? What makes someone want to go and make other disciples and establish new churches where there are none?

Experience it

- ▶ Challenge your family to memorize the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19-20), creating hand motions to help.
- ▶ Build a simple obstacle course. Take turns going through it, carrying a large suitcase. Repeat the course, carrying only a Bible. Which trip was easier? Carrying the suitcase represents bringing our own "church stuff" into a new culture. What ideas and traditions might the church try to bring along when planting new churches in unreached people groups?

Discuss it

- 1 Why do you think it's important that a church grows in its own culture?
- 2 How might churches in other cultures be different from your home church? What should be true of every church? Discuss what is essential and what is non-essential.
- 3 What would church look like if your family lived in a place without a church building or community of believers?

Map it

Pray for the global body of Christ to be true to the Great Commission, however they worship. As you gather around your map, sing your family's favorite worship songs. Pray that churches around the world will sing from their heart, worshiping in their own languages and unique styles.