

# Cross-cultural Relationships

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Northern Ministry Preparation Guide

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**Overview:** The missionary approaches intercultural relationships as a learner. He/ she appreciates the reflection of the image of God in the culture without overlooking the differences. Relationships are built on our common humanity and acceptance of differences. The missionary will adapt to the local culture as much as possible without compromising biblical principles. Also, missionaries will recognize that total assimilation is neither possible nor appropriate, and they will learn how to be themselves in another cultural with humility and grace. The missionary will help locals to follow Christ in a way that honors their own culture.

Potential Topics/Skills	Suggested Training Options
Community	<p>"Cross-Cultural Connections" by Elmer (applies to all sections of this competency)</p> <p>"Dealing with Rumors" NMT Track 3</p> <p>"Developing Friendships in the Village" NMT Track 3</p>
Conflict	<p>"Conflict" NMT Track 3</p> <p>"Cross-Cultural Conflict" by Elmer</p>
Communication	
Identifying Values	
Trust Building	<a href="#">Ministering Cross-Culturally</a> by Lingenfelter