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**BE A WELCOMER**

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## DEVELOPING FRIENDSHIPS WITH PEOPLE FROM OTHER CULTURES

God is bringing the nations to us! Along with going to take the gospel where it's not known, we can also begin reaching out to those living just next door—many of whom are from a place in the world without access to the gospel. This resource will guide you as you brainstorm some ways you can find and befriend internationals.

### QUESTIONS & ACTIVITIES

1. Have you ever had a friend from another culture and religion?

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2. What keeps Christians from developing relationships with people of other religions or cultures?

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3. Where are some areas or events in the city that have lots of people from other cultures or nationalities?

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4. What are some natural ways you could engage them in conversation and begin a friendship?

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### How to Find Internationals

- Research local restaurants, grocery stores, etc. that have diverse types of food.
- Attend cultural events/ holidays (Holi, Ramadan, food festivals, dances, etc.).
- Go to a nearby university and walk around.
- Find an international friendship partner program and sign up. They will do the work to connect you with an international student.
- Join a conversation group at a nearby university.

## Great Questions to Ask Them

- Could you tell me about your family?
- What do you do here for fun? (sports, music, etc.)
- What is your favorite type of food? Have you been able to find food in this city that reminds you of home? (Offer to take them there sometime so you can experience it.)
- What is the main thing you miss from home?

## Be Sensitive to Their Culture

- Be sensitive to their religious dietary restrictions (no pork around Muslims or beef around Hindus).
- Be respectful of their dress and home (possibly take off your shoes when entering their home, don't wear revealing clothing, and show respect to them by being a learner).
- Don't talk about politics or controversial issues.
- Don't use a lot of father/son talk around Muslims when you are first getting to know them.

## APPLICATION

Pray for God to guide you to a person of peace. Then go and make a cross-cultural friend! Be sure to get their contact information.