



## 6. PAUL: CROSS-CULTURAL MISSION



What makes Paul's mission Cross-cultural?

What has been Paul's task in his Mission?

What are the basics of Cross-cultural relationship?

### Review (5 min)

#### Abram's cross-cultural calling (Gen 12)

- Sociological Multiculturalism-Power -> big voice wins
- Theological Multiculturalism-God's love-> equal before God

#### Joshua's cross-cultural challenge (Josh 1)

- Conditions for peaceful coexistence :Majority and Minority
- Different context needs different approaches

#### Pentecost disciples- Cross-cultural event.(Gen 11, Acts 2)

- Babel tower - beginning of language barrier
- Pentecost event - language barrier abolished-> new start

#### Philip's cross-cultural message (Acts 8)

- Who leads us? What was the message about?

#### Peter's cross-cultural vision (Acts 10)

- From Jewish to Gentile; Overcoming sociological tension.

#### Paul's cross-cultural mission (Acts 20)

- Witnessing the love of God through Jesus our Lord.

### Acknowledgement of Country

This land is God's land and God's Spirit dwells here. We acknowledge the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin nation, traditional custodians of this land under God. We commit ourselves again to working for reconciliation in this land.

### Sharing Time (10 min)

- Share with your group what you have learned during this course so far.
- Identify activities in our church that is Cross-culturally motivated.

### Discussion with Video Clips

#### TV ad. & Drama "Kick" Fence"

#### Directed by Phillip Noyce, based on the book by Doris Pilkington Garimara

The first clip contains TV advertisement that our Government made in 2003. In the clip, people play footy and following the leader they show some kind of teamwork.

In the second clip, taken from TV drama "Kick" which is made in Melbourne in 2007. In this clip culturally diverse soccer team loses their star player who will be deported to his homeland.

Hope you can find the differences and common elements of sociological multiculturalism and theological multiculturalism.

#### Background: Sociological Multiculturalism

- > Recall the differences between Sociological and Theological Multiculturalism
- > What happens when sociological multiculturalism dominate the society?

#### Cultural Groups

--> Identify cultural groups in the story.

--> Where is Aussie in the Ad. and in the drama?

#### Conflicts and Relationships

--> Why sociological Multiculturalism creates conflicts?

--> How can we deal with such conflicts in our society and in our church?

#### Cross-Cultural Approach

--> What could be the way to develop cross-cultural relationship?

--> What are the basics of cross-cultural relationship?

### Discussion with Bible Story

#### Acts 20:1-3, 15-36

**1** When the uproar had ended, Paul sent for the disciples and, after encouraging them, said good-bye and set out for Macedonia. **2** He traveled through that area, speaking many words of encouragement to the people, and finally arrived in Greece, **3** where he stayed three months. Because the Jews made a plot against him just as he was about to sail for Syria, he decided to go back through Macedonia.

**15** The next day we set sail from there and arrived off Kios. The day after that we crossed over to Samos, and on the following day arrived at Miletus. **16** Paul had decided to sail past Ephesus to avoid spending time in the province of Asia, for he was in a hurry to reach Jerusalem, if possible, by the day of Pentecost.

**17** From Miletus, Paul sent to Ephesus for the elders of the church. **18** When they arrived, he said to them: "You know how I lived the whole time I was with you, from the first day I came into the province of Asia. **19** I served the Lord with great humility and with tears, although I was severely tested by the plots of the Jews. **20** You know that I have not hesitated to preach anything that would be helpful to you but have taught you publicly and from house to house. **21** I have declared to both Jews and Greeks that they must turn to God in repentance and have faith in our Lord Jesus. **22** "And now, compelled by the Spirit, I am going to Jerusalem, not knowing what will happen to me there. **23** I only know that in every city the Holy Spirit warns me that prison and hardships are facing me. **24** However, I consider my life worth nothing to me, if only I may finish

the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me--the task of testifying to the gospel of God's grace. **25** "Now I know that none of you among whom I have gone about preaching the kingdom will ever see me again. **26** Therefore, I declare to you today that I am innocent of the blood of all men. **27** For I have not hesitated to proclaim to you the whole will of God. **28** Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God, which he bought with his own blood. **29** I know that after I leave, savage wolves will come in among you and will not spare the flock. **30** Even from your own number men will arise and distort the truth in order to draw away disciples after them. **31** So be on your guard! Remember that for three years I never stopped warning each of you night and day with tears. **32** "Now I commit you to God and to the word of his grace, which can build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified. **33** I have not coveted anyone's silver or gold or clothing. **34** You yourselves know that these hands of mine have supplied my own needs and the needs of my companions. **35** In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'" **36** When he had said this, he knelt down with all of them and prayed. (NIV)

## Paul's Cross-cultural Mission(30 min) Questions for Group Discussion

### Background: Cross-cultural Mission

- > Read the Bible readings from Acts 20.
- > Follow the trails of Paul's third mission trip.

### Cultural Groups

- > Identify different cultural groups religiously and socially.
- > What makes Paul mission Cross-cultural?

### Conflicts and Relationships

- > Why Jews were making a plot against Paul?
- > What was the main message Paul wanted to say to elders in his last sermon?

### Cross-Cultural Approach

- > What has been Paul's task in his Cross-cultural mission?
- > What is our task in our Cross-cultural mission?

## QuestionTime (15 Min)

Next Study: Tue. 6th June, 1pm or 7:30pm(Hybrid)  
Study 7. Moses' Cross-cultural Life(Exodus 1:8-22)  
With Video clip from "Shrek"

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