

# Cross-Cultural Ministry



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JCLC Mentor Leaders Training/Development

# What We Hope to Accomplish

- We are so excited to have time with the JCLC Mentors!
- We want to share our experiences to encourage loving and supportive relationships
- More awareness about how to interact with different beliefs/lifestyles/cultures
- Celebrate the part of the culture that reflects the character of Jesus
- Give you a place to healthfully process these relational dynamics

**Jesus was all about  
cross-cultural  
ministry**

# Max + Omer

Max, an American, is hanging out at a Turkish tea café with his friend Omer, Turkish. At the end of their time hanging out, Omer insists on paying the bill for the tea. Later that week, Max learns that Omer is struggling to pay his rent. The next week Max and Omer hangout but Max refuses to let Omer pay the bill. Instead Max suggests that they split the bill and each pay for their own tea. A week later, Max tries to text and call Omer but Omer doesn't respond to Max's messages.

# What happened?

Can anyone explain what is happening with the relationship?

What do you think is the cultural perspective of Max?

What would be a solution to preserve the relationship without bankrupting Omer?

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**What is a good example of stepping into another culture?**

**What is a bad example of stepping into another culture?**

**Convictions**

Have you seen any of the kids you are mentoring experience cultural isolation because of their lifestyle/family?



**Boundaries**

When you are mentoring these kids,  
when have you felt your personal  
boundaries being challenged?

**Be Self-Aware**

Can you think of a holiday or time in the year when your kids might feel especially isolated or lonely in American culture?

**Avoid Over-  
Generalizations**

When you think about people in Ohio, what is a generalization, what is the reality?

How do you discern between a generalization and a reality? What is the difference?

# Questions

We shared our experiences about Turkey but when you think about this with the kids you are mentoring, did something stand out or change your perspective?

# Stories

Does anyone have stories about how you have had to navigate or learn from cross-cultural ministry experiences?