

Appendix C

Honest Insight

Honest questions and insight are needed for preparing yourself for crosscultural ministry: know yourself! Keep your heart . . . Proverbs 4:23. (Peter and Cornelius had a personal encounter with God before they engaged with each other, Acts 10:1–32.)

1. Pray and ask the Lord to reveal your perceptions and attitudes toward a people group you have difficulty loving as fellow human beings, part of the one race family (Ps. 139:23–24).
2. Make a list of the things that evoke negative thoughts and feelings in you about a people group you dislike. Separate the list into cultural (not sinful) and moral (sinful) issues (1 Cor. 5, 8, 9; Rom. 14, 15:1–13).
3. How do you demonstrate grace, compassion without compromise, toward those living a sinful lifestyle? (John 4:1–42)
4. What have you learned about a people group that helps you to better communicate the gospel to them? (1 Cor. 9:19–23)
5. How do you demonstrate humility toward those with whom you disagree? (Phil. 2:1–9; 1 Pet. 5:5–11)
6. How do you handle hurts? Is there a person who hurt you that you have not forgiven?
7. How often do you pray for those whom you believe are part of the one human race but have not believed in Christ to become part of the one blood family? (Rom. 9:1–3, 10:1–3; 1 Tim. 2:1–6; John 3:16)
8. If you were arrested for being a Christian, a member of the one blood family, and prosecuted on the basis of love for others of different ethnic and cultural backgrounds within the family, what evidence could be used to convict you? (John 13:34–35; 1 John 4:7–12, 19–21)

A mature friend, who will be honest, will be most helpful in evaluating the above areas (Prov. 27:6).