

CROSS CULTURAL MARRIAGE HARMONY

(Wellsford Fellowship - 13/12/97 - EKB)

1. **The starting point** is to acknowledge that both cultures are right. It is not a matter of one right and the other wrong. (However in any particular culture there will probably be some things we need to avoid as Bible believing disciples of Jesus Christ. e.g. those who practice as a medium. *1Sam 28:7*.)
2. **Secondly** it is very important to objectively look at the differences of approach to life, one at a time, and talk about them, without fear, and as peacefully as possible.
3. Then it is essential to see the **need for some change** and adjustment by both husband and wife, to come closer together in the way they see things, and act.
4. *1Cor 1:10* says, "I plead with you, by the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly joined together in **the same mind and the same judgment.**"
5. If both are determined to trust in the Lord, to enable them to work things out together, and to be able to change, so that the Lord by **His Spirit can make both one**, oneness will be achieved.
6. **Pray together** for God's help. This is the No 1 essential. Praise Him for the answers.
7. Eliminate "expectations" of one another. "**Let your expectation be of the Lord**", *Ps 62:5*,
8. Build friendships with other bi-cultural couples.
9. "**By love serve one another**", *Gal 5:13*, and choose to be servants of one another.
10. Please read and meditate on Notes, No 143, 51, 100.