

This chapter explained the meanings of culture, ethnocentrism, cultural relativism, and how can the people fairly hear the gospel with different cultural background.

Culture is the learned and shared knowledge that people use to generate behavior and interpret experience. Two common fallacies were encountered when people judge the behavior of others: ethnocentric fallacy and relativistic fallacy. Ethnocentrism is the belief and feeling that one's own culture is best and reflects our tendency to judge other people's beliefs. Cultural relativism thought that no behavior or belief can be considered wrong or bad simply because it differs from our own culture. To be fair, we must understand a culture on their own terms and to understand behaviors or beliefs in terms of the purpose, function or meaning of the people.

My personal experiences of culture shock occurred during my first-year graduate study in American. The ways of greeting, the new language, and the class environments were all different from my home country. I went through the different culture shock stages: tourist, disenchantment, resolution, and adjustment, then forty years later when I went back to home country, I experienced the reverse culture shock stage. No matter how different culture significancy between American and my home country, I know the more important matter is of God's kingdom culture. Each culture has its advantages and shortages. We should try to understand the merits of different culture and by God's grace through our influences to transform the shortages of our cultures.

I want to know more about how to share gospel with different cultural background people. I also want to appreciate my own culture with comparing the biblical culture.