

Cultural Orientation Workshop

This 4 hour workshop (divided into two seminars of 2 hrs each) is designed to help break down cultural walls between ethnic groups, encourage people to **develop intercultural relationships** through an discovery of their personal cultural orientation.



The first session begins with a simple introduction to culture that utilizes optical illusions and provides the analogy of wearing glasses to explain culture as the way ethnically distinct groups interact successfully with their environment. It concludes with an explanation of high-context vs low-context cultures and how to alleviate the tensions that can occur when the cultures clash.

The second 2 hour session uses Lingenfelter's diagnostic questionnaire through which the participants discover their personal cultural orientation in 6 areas (the questionnaire by each participant is completed *before* the workshop):

- **Time vs event**
- **Dichotomous vs holistic**
- **Crisis vs noncrisis**
- **Task vs person**
- **Achievement vs Status**
- **Willingness to expose vulnerability vs Concealment of vulnerability**



This workshop is an excellent beginning for those who wish to promote *healthy intercultural relationships* within a multi-ethnic church or between ethnically diverse congregations. 7 “keys” to intercultural health are provided.

Input from the participants is an important part of the workshop with impromptu skits, personal anecdotes, comparison of cultural orientations and breakout groups.