

Being A Gospel Witness in a Multicultural Nation

- Rate the importance of the following:
 1. Security in an international airport
 2. Faithfulness in marriage
 3. Communicating the gospel message to the entire world

- Why must the gospel be communicated to the entire world?
 1. Jesus c_____ it (Matt28:19,20; Acts 1:8).
 2. So that people can be s_____ from their sins (Heb 1:1-3; Jn 14:6; Jn 1:1,14; Rom 10:13-17).
 3. Jesus cannot return a second time until people from e_____ tribe, tongue, nation, and class comes to trust Jesus (Matt 24:14; Rev 5:9,10; Rom 1:16; 1 Thess 5:23,24).

- Let's take some mission trips
 1. Haiti
 - a. Many claim to be Christian due to the efforts of C_____ missionaries in previous centuries.
 - b. Most Catholic Haitians practice v_____
 - c. Voodoo beliefs:
 - 1) Each family has a specific spirit-being who p_____ their children.
 - 2) Families must f_____ this spirit at various times with actual food and drink.
 - 3) If a family needs help in connecting with their family spirit, a voodoo specialist acts as a m_____
 - d. Can a person be a true believer in Christ and practice voodoo? Gal 5:19,20 – the gospel message requires repentance from sinful practices, including w_____, which voodoo is.
 2. Peru
 - a. Most Peruvians practice animism, the belief that everything (animate and inanimate objects) has a s_____ aliveness.
 - b. Witchcraft is used to spiritually connect people to various things.
 - 1) Fortune telling connects people to the s_____

- 2) Connecting with spirits through certain rituals or a m_____.
- c. Can a person be a true believer in Christ and practice animism?
 - 1) Israel was freed from slavery to Egyptian. Egyptian culture practiced animism (i_____ worshippers).
 - 2) Just months after being freed, a large group worshipped a golden calf and called it Y_____ (the Hebrew name of God)
 - 3) God became so angry that He was going to k_____ all the idolaters, but He did not (Deut 32). Many did not put away their idolatrous practices.
 - 4) A generation later Joshua tells the people of Israel to c_____ to either serve the gods of their ancestors or the Lord God (Josh 24:14,15)
 - 5) Elijah confronted an Israelite culture that combined pagan practices with their worship of Yahweh. He told them to c_____ which God to serve (I Kgs 18).
3. Oaxaca, Mexico
 - a. Most combine Catholicism with ancestral religions.
 - b. The Day of the D_____ is very important to Mexican culture and is similar to Halloween.
 - 1) Celebrated on November _____.
 - 2) The spirits of dead r_____ return for help in making their journey to a final resting place.
 - 3) Family members provide food, drink, and tools to help the spirits (there are ____ levels of challenges).
 - 4) The Aztec goddess of the u_____, La Catrina, is a key figure in this celebration and is depicted as a female skeleton.
4. A Wiccan coven (Wicca is an official religion of witchcraft recognized by the U.S. government).
 - a. These believe that Oct 31 is the highest night of power where one can more easily connect with the s_____ world.
 - b. Rituals can help the spirits of dead loved ones make their journey to the S_____. (See Acts 19:18-20)

- Most people in America observe Halloween but DO NOT believe in the pagan stuff connected with it.
 1. You CAN observe Halloween customs and it will not affect your s_____ as long as you don't believe in them.
 2. You CANNOT observe Halloween customs without it affecting your w_____ to the pagan cultures of the world.
 - a. A Mexican believer in Christ brings his unbelieving relatives to church praying for their salvation. How will he react when he discovers that Christians in the church practice Halloween rituals that he repented of in order to be saved? How will his unbelieving relatives react?
 - b. A former Wiccan brings her unbelieving teenage daughters to church praying for their salvation. How will she react when she sees Christians of the church practice Halloween rituals that she repented of? How will her teenage daughters react?
- The United States is multicultural - The Joshua Project calculates ____ people groups in the U.S. (these people came with their customs and beliefs).
 1. God warned the Israelites not to i_____ the things of other nations which have to do with practices pertaining to other gods (Deut 18:9-12).
 - a. God did not say, *You can do the rituals as long as you don't believe in them.*
 - b. God said, don't copy them because *the people of those nations l_____ to diviners and witches* (Deut 18:14) - it keeps them from believing in the one true God.
 2. God desires His people to be a witness in both word and a_____. Don't be a stumbling block to the gospel.

Be a gospel witness to the many cultures in the United States by your word and your practices.