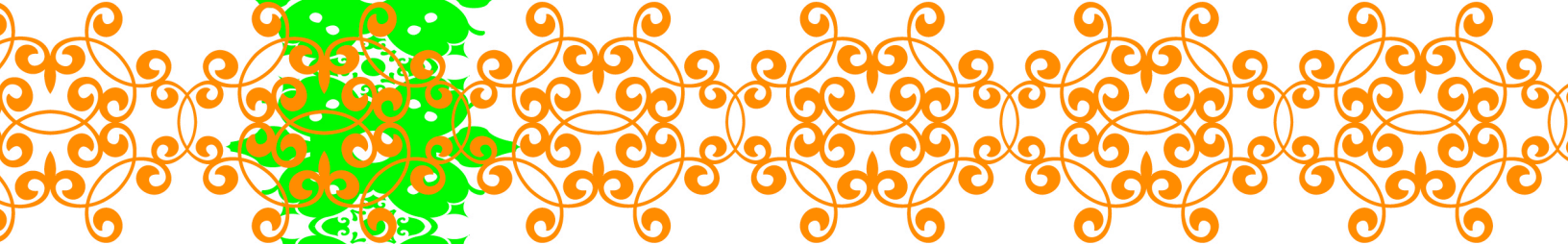




# ISF RESOURCE MANUAL

*A guide for leaders of ministries to Internationals*



June 2010

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## Introduction

Did you know that Chi Alpha Christian Fellowship has been focused on ministering to the unique needs of international students since 1981? Throughout that time, some ministry ideas have worked, and some, well, haven't been stellar. We know that ministering to these international guests is in God's heart, but what actually works?

In your hands you hold a few of the ideas that have worked! We trust and pray that this smorgasbord of practical ideas for special events, recipes, Bible studies, and resources will give you the help that you need to minister effectively to this strategic group of students. May God empower you as you seek to love the nations in His name.

Chi Alpha's ISFM team



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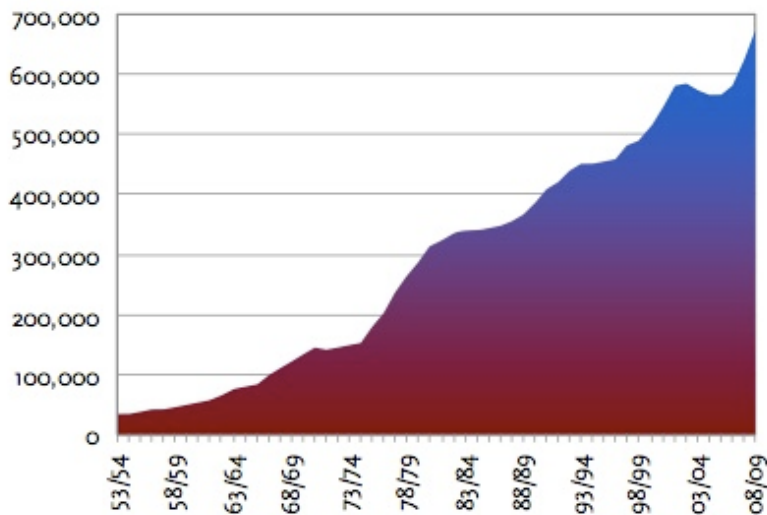
# **The Essentials on Internationals**

**part 1**

## I.I. FACTS

Many internationals desire to study in The United States. Opportunities for international students have increased over recent decades and will likely increase in the future.

In 2008/09, the number of international students in the U.S. increased 7.7% over the previous year to a high of 671,616 students.



Year	Total Int'l Students	% Change	Total U.S. Higher Education Enrollment*	% Int'l
2000/01	547,867	6.4	15,312,000	3.6
2001/02	582,996	6.4	15,928,000	3.7
2002/03	586,323	0.6	16,612,000	3.5
2003/04	572,509	-2.4	16,911,000	3.4
2004/05	565,039	-1.3	17,272,000	3.3
2005/06	564,766	-0.05	17,487,000	3.2
2006/07	582,984	3.2	17,672,000	3.3
2007/08	623,805	7.0	17,958,000	3.5
2008/09	671,616	7.7	18,264,000	3.7

\* Data from the National Center for Education Statistics

Here are the top nations from which internationals are coming:

- Students from the top five places comprise 50% of all international students.

Rank	Place of Origin	2007/08	2008/09	% of Total	% Change
	<b>WORLD TOTAL</b>	<b>623,805</b>	<b>671,616</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>7.7</b>
1	India	94,563	103,260	15.4	9.2
2	China	81,127	98,235	14.6	21.1
3	South Korea	69,124	75,065	11.2	8.6
4	Canada	29,051	29,697	4.4	2.2
5	Japan	33,974	29,264	4.4	-13.9
6	Taiwan	29,001	28,065	4.2	-3.2
7	Mexico	14,837	14,850	2.2	0.1
8	Turkey	12,030	13,263	2.0	10.2
9	Vietnam	8,769	12,823	1.9	46.2
10	Saudi Arabia	9,873	12,661	1.9	28.2
11	Nepal	8,936	11,581	1.7	29.6
12	Germany	8,907	9,679	1.4	8.7
13	Brazil	7,578	8,767	1.3	15.7
14	Thailand	9,004	8,736	1.3	-3.0
15	United Kingdom	8,367	8,701	1.3	4.0
16	Hong Kong	8,286	8,329	1.2	0.5
17	Indonesia	7,692	7,509	1.1	-2.4
18	France	7,050	7,421	1.1	5.3
19	Colombia	6,662	7,013	1.0	5.3
20	Nigeria	6,222	6,256	0.9	0.5

Here is a list of the universities with the highest populations of internationals:

Rank	Institution	City	State	Total Int'l Students
1	University of Southern California	Los Angeles	CA	7,482
2	New York University	New York	NY	6,761
3	Columbia University	New York	NY	6,685
4	University of Illinois - Urbana-Champaign	Champaign	IL	6,570
5	Purdue University - Main Campus	West Lafayette	IN	6,136
6	University of Michigan - Ann Arbor	Ann Arbor	MI	5,790
7	University of Texas - Austin	Austin	TX	5,703
8	University of California - Los Angeles	Los Angeles	CA	5,590
9	Boston University	Boston	MA	5,037
10	Michigan State University	East Lansing	MI	4,757



## I.2. FRIENDSHIP PARTNER PROGRAMS: AN OUTLINE FOR VOLUNTEER TRAINING

- Internationals desire friendship with Americans. Most never make it into an American's home.
- God loves all people of the world and expects us to love them, too. This program multiplies our efforts to express His love.
- Being a Friendship Partner is an enriching experience.

### ON-GOING RELATIONSHIP EXPECTATIONS

- Volunteer calls, emails or writes weekly expressing genuine friendship.
- Volunteer gets together with student at least once a month (meal, sports, sightseeing, etc.)
- Volunteer and student attends on-campus events monthly.
- Volunteer prays for international regularly.

### HELPING WITH ADJUSTMENT

- Traveling around town: Learning the bus system, taxis, safety tips
- Household Shopping: Taking them to Walmart to get essentials
- Grocery shopping: Helping them with grocery stores & ethnic foods.

### CONVERSING WITH INTERNATIONALS

- Speak clearly, not loudly or slowly. Don't worry about silence.
- Be aware of idioms, slang, humor. Explain them. Respect differences of opinion.

### HOSPITALITY

- Communicate details ahead of time: date, time, dress, what to expect.
- Lateness is acceptable behavior in many countries. Don't be offended if student arrives late.
- Pets: On the first visit, keep your pet confined to a room or yard.
- Give a tour: It's a great conversation starter & internationals enjoy seeing the layout.
- Meals: Ask about dietary restrictions. Stay away from casseroles. Place a bottle of hot sauce on the table. Rice, chicken and fish are fairly "safe bets." Keep desserts simple, not rich.
- Ending the visit: Tell them the time parameters ahead, and initiate the end of your visit.

## WHEN FAITH COMES UP

Our commitment to students is to provide unconditional friendship regardless of whether or not the student is interested in Christianity. Our guide

Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect. 1 Peter 3:15

- Students have been assured no one will pressure them spiritually. (A person, not a project!)
- Be open to real dialogue about religious or spiritual topics. Make sure the discussion involves listening and learning, as well as speaking and sharing.
- There is no need to hide your spiritual life. Students are aware it is a Christian-based program.
- If the student shows interest in attending church events, be clear about what will be happening at the event. Let them know that they are free to just observe, and that there is no pressure to participate.
- Pray for God's blessing on your student.
- Consider the Engel's Scale. Goal: Help them move ONE STEP closer to God in their journey.

-8 -7 -6 -5 -4 -3 -2 -1 † +1 +2 +3 +4 +5 +6 +7 +8

Pre-salvation

Salvation

Growing in Christ

## IF THEY DO SHOW INTEREST IN CHRISTIANITY

- Share your own spiritual journey.
- Help them acquire a Bible, if desired (bilingual is often best).
- Make them aware of Chi Alpha's Christian events and conferences.

## IF THEY DO NOT SHOW INTEREST IN CHRISTIANITY

- Apply NO pressure & keep the same level of unconditional friendship.

### 1.3. NAFSA Ethical Guidelines

NAFSA (The Association of International Educators) has outlined principles of ethics to guide the professional conduct of individuals working in international education. Some ethical guidelines that are especially applicable to campus ministry are listed here. (Adapted from the NAFSA's Statement of Ethics for International Educators, 2008):

NAFSA Members have a responsibility to:

- Not discriminate with regard to race, color, national origin, ethnicity, sex, religion, sexual orientation, marital status, age, political opinion, immigration status, or disability.
- Demonstrate awareness of, sensitivity to, and respect for other values, beliefs, and cultures.
- Not exploit, threaten, coerce, or sexually harass others.
- Not use one's position to proselytize.
- With programming: clearly and accurately represent the identity of the organization and goals, capabilities, and cost of programs.

A clarifying paragraph states: Notices of meetings or events should always include the content matter, intent, and sponsor of the meeting or event. Using unsolicited, coercive, manipulative and/or hidden persuasion that seeks to influence others to adopt another way of thinking, believing, or behaving is not in the best interest of the program or participants.

## SAMPLE GUIDELINES AND COMMITMENT FOR VOLUNTEERS

All American Friend volunteers must adhere to the following guidelines. Please initial if you agree to abide by these guidelines. If you disagree, please explain on the back.

- \_\_\_\_\_ Volunteers demonstrate respect to all internationals regardless of their race, color, national origin, ethnicity, sex, religion, sexual orientation, marital status, age, political opinion, immigration status, or disability.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Volunteers are open and transparent in their invitations/publicity to all events. Programs with a religious content must be clearly stated as such.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Volunteers never resort to manipulation or pressure in order to change the beliefs of students. Spiritual discussions is always characterized by respect for the beliefs of others and openness to true dialogue.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Volunteers are committed to providing unconditional friendship and hospitality-- whether or not an international has an interest in Christianity.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Volunteers demonstrate integrity by adhering to the goals of Chi Alpha's programs (not sales, dating, etc.)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Volunteers agree to maintain an unconditional friendship with regular contact with an international student for at least one academic year.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Volunteers make a genuine effort to attend and help with program events.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Volunteers keep in regular contact with the Chi Alpha staff and notify them if any problems arise throughout the year.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_





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## Activities

part 2

## 2.I. INTERNATIONAL WELCOME RECEPTION

One of the simplest and most effective ways to get international ministry started is to have a "Welcome Reception." You will end up with plenty of emails of new internationals and many new friends.

Internationals generally arrive to campus two weeks early for orientation, so make sure the event is on the very first weekend of school. You will be surprised at how many will come for something that is designed just for them!

### Décor Possibilities:

Have a large banner or signs that say "Welcome" in different languages  
Have 'world music' playing  
Hang flags from various nations

### Menu Options:

Sandwiches, with vegetarian option (PB & J)  
Frozen meatballs in barbecue sauce--warmed in crockpot  
Pita/humus  
Fruit tray  
Cake, decorated with an American theme

### Activities:

- Informal mingle time (invite small groups of students to play Uno?)
- Have a time of introduction with each student sharing something they love about their home nation. If there are multiple students from one nation, they can share as a group.
- Introduction to XA:  
The XA leader explains about Chi Alpha: how we want to be a friendly face for internationals, help them in their adjustment, & answer questions about Christianity if interested. Make it clear that we would like to be their friend no matter what their level of interest in Christianity. Then offer an upcoming activity that they might enjoy (e.g. XA barbecue).

- Complete contact forms (with a checklist of activities of interest) with a door prize drawing from the forms, e.g. restaurant gift certificate, umbrella, etc.
- Give practical pointers about your campus and community. For example, the nearest Asian market, bus system overview, any free amenities that they can find nearby, etc.
- Share cake and mingle. Afterwards, have students follow up with new friends.

## 2.2. AMERICAN PICNIC

- This can be adapted to fit regional specialties as an additional draw to students, i.e. Texas BBQ, New England Clambakes, Louisiana Shrimp Boils, etc. This is a great event to advertise to families on campus, as it is easy to create activities for children.
- For each seating area, assign one student to facilitate and guide discussion.
- You can place a picnic basket at each table filled with questions and conversation.
- Have a door prize, drawing from the contact cards. Possible prizes could be Frisbees, water guns, XA t-shirts, etc.

### Décor Possibilities:

Red and white checkered tablecloths  
 Blankets on the ground in lieu of tables  
 Picnic Basket to collect info cards  
 Balloons

### Activities:

- Frisbee
- Croquet
- Horseshoes
- Hula Hoop contests
- Balloon/Water Balloon Games



- Two-Legged Race
- Sack Races

Menu Options:  
 Easy Apple Crisp  
 Cucumber Sandwiches

See [recipes](#) in Sec 4.2.

### 2.3. CHINESE NEW YEAR

- Ask Asian students on campus to help prepare food.
- Ask your Asian students for new ideas, or traditions that they can share.
- The more authentic the food, the more the word will spread!
- Don't limit it to Chinese tradition/food/etc. Many Asian countries celebrate the same calendar, so make it as varied as possible
- Don't be concerned that everything isn't 'authentic,' as you are in the USA after all. Its okay to play American games. As long as fun and community are the theme, it will turn out fabulous!

Décor Possibilities:

Red paper lanterns

Red tablecloths, gold accents

Red and//or white Christmas lights\*

Red and Gold Christmas garland and beads\*

\*Make sure to hit the Christmas aisles after Dec. 26<sup>th</sup>. You can get red and gold décor for up to 75% off. Buy a bunch, then be creative! This can go a long way in decorating a large room. You can also find New Year's Eve confetti "fun" packs on clearance – another economical addition to the fun!

Activities:

- Chinese Lion/Dragon dancers (sometimes the Chinese Student Association will have volunteers)
- Chinese jump rope demo/contest

- Ping Pong
- Countdown with “fireworks” (poppers/confetti/etc)
- Karaoke

See [recipes](#) in Sec 4.2.

Menu Options:  
 Thai Noodles  
 Boba Tea (Bubble Tea)

## 2.4. AMERICAN WEDDING

- Ask international students to volunteer for the roles (bride/groom, maid-of-honor/best man, bridesmaids/groomsmen, flower girl/ring bearer, mother and father of the bride/groom. If you don't have enough Internationals, ask American students).
- Find a location (check what is available on campus, contact International office, local churches, XA house, etc.).
- Promotions (a simplistic flier that resembles a basic wedding invite would be ideal. The International Office may be willing to add this event to their website).
- Ask your campus pastor to officiate.
- Costumes (check local thrift stores or wedding cleaners for a wedding dress, use old formal dresses for bridesmaids and flower girl, borrow blazers and ties/suits from some guys).
- Plan a reception (do dinner, cake and punch).

#### Décor Possibilities:

Check local dollar store

Borrow from local churches

Shop off season clearance at craft stores such as Michael's

Flowers (silk from dollar store, real flowers from personal gardens, etc.)

#### Activities:

- Have a guestbook attendant when people enter (a great way to get students contact info).
- Pre-ceremony you can have Americans talk about dating and marriage traditions in the US while you prepare the wedding party. Go over the Christian values on marriage, briefly explain the ceremony so they know what to expect.
- Have a traditional Christian ceremony (ask local pastor for vows).
- During the reception have the bride and groom cut the cake, drink punch, etc.
- Prepare toasts for the best man and maid-of-honor to give (be as humorous as possible!)  
Give away door prizes (home goods such as towels, dishes, etc. can be purchased at the dollar store, wrap these to look like wedding gifts).
- Have birdseed ready to toss (or bubbles).
- Decorate someone's car to whisk the bride and groom away (you can bring them right back)

#### Menu Options:

Easy Baked Ziti

Party Punch

See [recipes](#) in Sec 4.2.

## 2.5. BOLLYWOOD NIGHT

- Have Indian students prepare customary snacks.
- Many Indian students will own some movies, so ask to borrow.
- Most films are around three hours, so be prepared for a whole evening of fun!
- There is an intermission in the middle; it's a great time to share snacks.

### Décor Possibilities:

Cover floor with colorful pillows for seating.

Burn incense (according to directions!) Just don't make it too strong of a scent that it distracts.

Drape sofas, tables, or cover walls with bright fabrics.

### Menu options:

Popcorn and soda (totally American, but definitely okay to serve!)

Pakora

Mango Lassi

Carrot Pudding

Indian Roasted Corn

Chai Tea

See [recipes](#) in Sec 4.2.

### Activities:

- Play Hindi music while people are gathering to set the mood.
- Film suggestions (which are available through Netflix):
  - Lagaan; Oscar nominated Bollywood film, center on sports, but also the Indian struggle for independence, and of course... love!
  - Kuch Kuch Hota Hai; A love story that brings both tears and laughter, and an introduction to Shahrukh Khan, the 'King of Bollywood'
- During intermission, see if anyone can replicate their favorite dance sequence from the movie.
- Have a discussion about themes represented, allowing the students to share aspects of their culture.





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# **Bible Studies**

**part 3**

### 3.1. INVESTIGATIVE-BIBLE-STUDY NIGHTS

The Friday Fellowship weekly format has worked well and involves three elements: a student-cooked international meal, an investigative Bible study, and a game/activity.

- The food and games are crucial elements to go along with the Bible study.
- The international students have ownership of the event and it is designed to be very welcoming to non-Christian friends. An informal, family atmosphere is vital.
- Keep the location very convenient to students. A lounge area with couches in an academic building on campus works well.

#### Meal:

- Make a schedule for the semester for rotating student cooks (any international can do it).
- The staff leader shops and buys the groceries with the student and helps the student cook (great relationship-building time). This can be in a home or dorm kitchen.
- Typical meal: Rice, meat dish, vegetarian dish, fruit/cookies, water. Invest in a rice cooker and use it EVERY week!
- Have a non-threatening ice-breaker question each week during the meal (e.g. the highlight of your week).

#### Bible Study:

- Staff leads the first few weeks of overview of the Bible, then have a rotating schedule of STUDENT facilitators of Bible study. Internationals need Bible-study leadership practice.
- Provide Bible study curriculum guides and work with student facilitator on writing down the questions ahead of time.
- Video series (The Hope Video or Campus Alpha course) are especially good. See Resource list for other suggested study guides.
- Provide Bibles for everyone during the study. Students can keep Bible as a gift, if desired. Write a personal note in the front and show them where to start reading (e.g. the gospels).

- Try to have a student testimony each week, too (salvation or answered prayer). This is key for building faith.

#### Games/Activity:

- Cards and board games are great: Spoons, Uno, Apples to Apples, etc.
- As a variation, walk to an ice cream parlor, go bowling, or watch a movie.

Sample Introductory Bible studies are included in the next few pages.

- These are more lecture style as an opening introduction to the Bible for the first 3 weeks for those who are unfamiliar with it.
- Students need an orientation to the Bible itself (Old/New Testaments, chapter/verses).
- An Old Testament context is crucial before introducing studies about Jesus.
- After these introductory lessons, international or American students can lead a topical study on a Bible book, video series, or using study guides recommended in the Resource list.

More resources and Bible study links can be found in Section 4.3



### 3.2. INTRODUCTION: OVERVIEW OF THE BIBLE

What kind of books do you enjoy reading? What have you heard about the Bible?

The Bible is a unique book.

- Written by over 40 men: shepherds, doctors, priests, tentmakers, kings.
- It was written over a time period of around 1600 years (~1500 BC to ~100 AD).
- Parts were written on three different continents (Asia, Europe & Africa) and in Hebrew & Greek.
- Big book with 66 smaller books.
- Its influence on our world and on many people's lives has been tremendous. It's the most translated book ever. Portions translated in over 2,000 languages (Shakespeare is 50).
- Uniqueness: A living document with power to change the reader. The Author is alive and meets us as we read.

Look at the Bible's table of contents to see the Bible's two main divisions.

1. The Old Testament books were written hundreds of years before Christ. Shows God's plan of redeeming the world, God's dealing with ancient Hebrews.
2. The New Testament books were written after Jesus' earthly life. Shows Jesus' ministry and the founding of the Christian community.

### Christianity: What is it?

What were your impressions of Christianity before you came to America?

1. Christianity is NOT:
  - a. Just a code of behavior. Going to church, doing good things, living a moral life  
Some who do these things are not Christians. Eph. 2:8-9
  - b. Just a philosophy of life: Believing the right things; the right mental attitude.  
Some people have good philosophies of life, but are not Christians! (Mt. 7:21-23)
  - c. Just a way to get to heaven; a decision only; a way to relieve our fear of death

- Christianity affects a person's daily life now and their eternal future.
- d. Just an American religion: Simply a part of American culture or family traditions.  
It began in the middle east. There are more Christians in S. America & Africa than U.S. Many Christians come from families that are not Christian.
2. So what IS Christianity? A RELATIONSHIP with God.
  3. A true Christian is: A person who has CHOSEN to believe in Jesus, RECEIVE Him, and let Him be THE LORD/BOSS of their life.

### God: Who Is He, and What Is He Like?

- Read Genesis 1:1  
If God made the material universe, what does this tell us about God and what He is like?
- Read Genesis 1:26-30  
Verse 26 says people were made in the image of God. In what ways do you think God and man are alike? In what ways are they different?  
How does God relate to and treat the first people? (See verses 28-30.)  
What gives God the right to tell people what to do?
- Read Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24  
The poet writes of how much God knows him and that God has placed his hand on him. How does the writer think and feel about God? How does it make YOU feel?

### For further reflection:

- If God is as we have looked at here today, how does that make you feel about Him?
- Why do you think God wants a person to do more than just believe in his mind that there is a God?
- Was there anything in the talk on Christianity that was surprising to you? Any questions?

### 3.3. INTRODUCTION: AFTER CREATION, WHAT WENT WRONG?

#### A. Broken Relationship

##### 1. GOOD RELATIONSHIP

Read Gen 2:16-17

God provided all food they could ever want, beautiful home.

God made just one rule in the relationship.

##### 2. SIN: to miss God's standard which breaks the relationship

Read Gen. 3: 1-7.

Satan tempted Eve and she and Adam disobeyed God.

Obedying God's rules is the standard. When we disobey God, we are in rebellion to God.

When Adam disobeyed, the relationship was broken. Adam & Eve realized they were naked and were ashamed.

##### 3. SEPARATION

Disobedience (sin) causes a separation from God.

Read Gen. 3:8-10

God asks, "Where are you?" Why do you think he asks that?

God knows the relationship is broken, the closeness with God is no longer available. We cannot overcome this gap between God and man in our own efforts.

##### 4. RECONCILIATION

What does reconciliation mean? To restore a broken relationship. Bring 2 parties together.

When he made man, God could have forced man to be in a relationship with him. Why do you think he did not?

God throughout history wants man to come back into relationship with him. God could have killed Adam when he sinned, but instead he provided for him.

Gen. 3:21 The Lord God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife and clothed them. God still cared about them.

## B. The Plan

1. The Promised One: Creator God had a plan from the beginning to reconcile man. He promised to send Someone who would pay the penalty for sin so that we can be brought back into relationship. Jesus, who was God and perfect, would come to earth as a man. When He died on the cross, He would bridge the gap between Man and God so we would have a way to enter a relationship with God.
2. The rest of God's Plan: His people were then supposed to tell the rest of the world about the One True God and the opportunity to be reconciled and have an intimate relationship to God. That was God's plan.

### Further Questions

Why do you think Adam/Eve disobeyed the one command?

What strikes you about this study?

Since that time, God holds each individual responsible for their own broken relationship with Him. We can't blame our sin on Adam/Eve since we each have turned away from God on our own. Agree/disagree? See Isaiah 53:6

Why do you think God's plan is considered good news?

\* Some content adapted from Storyteller's Bible Study (Bill Perry, 2002, Multi-Language Media) and "Discover Jesus" study (Kelly Brown)

### 3.4. INTRODUCTION: LIFE OF JESUS IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

Review last week. Who do people think Jesus is in your culture?

#### I. Jesus fulfilled the Covenant

- A. Jesus' Birth: Glorious plan, not an accident
  - Lk. 1: 26-38 miraculous conception
  - Micah 5:2 Birthplace foretold--fulfilled prophecies
- B. Jesus Life/Ministry/Teaching/Claims
  - Healed people, taught them about God, claimed to be the Savior. His life and ministry reflects God's desire to have a relationship with us.
    - I. His Example: By His example we see a:
      - Humble Servant: washed disciples feet
      - Holy One...without sin
      - Friend to the friendless: tax collectors, prostitutes, doctors
    - II. His Teaching: By his teaching we see:
      - He honors the authority of Scripture... 'Thus it is written'
      - Reveals the truth about life. He did not misrepresent for popularity.
    - III. His Ministry: (Our Need Meeter)
      - Compassionate: healed lepers by touch, blessed children
      - Met big & small needs (sickness/death & knowing the hairs on our head)
      - Powerful: even raised the dead!
    - IV. His Claims: He said, "I AM the..."
      - Savior, Son of God, The Bread of Life, Light of the World, The Way, the Truth, the Life, etc. He claimed to be God.
- C. Jesus' Death
  - His death was NOT accidental or man's idea
  - Jesus told Pilate, 'For this reason I have come...' (to lay down His life).
  - Jesus was Redeemer..man's final payment/punishment for our sin.

#### D. Jesus' Resurrection

Jesus came back to life! He conquered death!

Soon after his resurrection Jesus spoke to 2 discouraged disciples... 'And beginning with Moses & the prophets, He explained things concerning Himself in all the Scriptures.' The prophesies were fulfilled!

Resurrection shows God's acceptance of Jesus' sacrifice for man. Jesus returned to heaven and is available to us through prayer.

## II. Covenant Relationship

- God's reconciliation plan is far older than 2,000 years. He's been calling "where are you?" from the beginning. The way back to God came by Jesus' death & resurrection.
- Plan: to win us back into an intimate Covenant relationship with God forever.

We come to relationship by faith in His grace. Can't be good enough or pay our own debt.

- Made new life possible by His plan. 2-way COVENANT (promise):

Our part: We must choose to repent (confess & turn from sin).  
We must accept His free gift of salvation and follow Him.

His part: He will forgive us, fulfill our lives, & allow us to be with Him forever.

Read John 3:16-17 & John 14:6. What do these 2 verses tell us about Jesus? After this talk, what new impressions do you have about Creator God? About Jesus? Would you like to study His life?

\* Some content adapted from Storyteller's Bible Study (Bill Perry, 2002, Multi-Language Media) and "Discover Jesus" study (Kelly Brown)

### 3.5. HOW DO I HEAR FROM GOD FOR IMPORTANT DECISIONS

God gave people free will. We can choose to follow God, we can choose to sin.

God has a plan for us. He wants to bless us. Jer 1:5, Jer 29:11

God promises to lead us: Ps 32:8, Rom 12:2, John 10:27

How does He lead us? How can we be sure that our free-will decisions are fitting in with God's plan?

#### I. Obedience to God's Word

- In the Bible God revealed His general will for our lives. He will not contradict His Word in the Bible.
- Through the Bible, we can know what is right to do, we don't need to doubt or wonder.

Examples: We shouldn't lie. We shouldn't steal. We should tithe. We should honor our parents.

- The following methods of God leading us need be tested against the Bible - they need to agree.

#### II. Common Sense

God gave us a brain for a reason.

Example: Finding a marriage partner: Are our world views compatible? Are our life goals compatible? Is the other person attractive to me?

Example: What job is right for me: What are my talents? What can I do well? What are my passions? What do I like to do?

### III. Advice from believers

Speak to someone

- who you trust
- who you respect
- who God has put in spiritual authority over you.

Advice is needed: Prov 20:18, Prov 12:15, Prov 15:22

### IV. Leading by the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit speaks differently to different people. We need to learn to be sensitive how God is speaking to us. We need to learn to recognize the voice of our Shepherd.

When we go to a doctor and tell him what is wrong with us, we expect a diagnosis and advice. In the same way, when we go to God in prayer, we can expect an answer. God's advice might be: Yes, No, Later.

Possible ways that God speaks through the Holy Spirit: feeling His peace, hearing His voice, having a divine thought or idea, prophecy, dreams, visions

### V. Open Doors

God can guide through circumstances. The book of Esther in the Bible describes God-given coincidence, that determined the fate of a nation.

God works everything for the good of those who are called to His purpose: Prov 16:9, Ps 37:4-5, Rom 8:28

Finally:

We need to be patient. Example: Abraham: Heb 6:15







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## **Additional Resources**

**part 4**

## 4.1. COMMON IDIOMS

Idioms that are overlooked in American conversation can be a great discussion topic. Here are a few collections that you might have on hand for an informal dinner conversation, or use them for an English Conversation Class!

### Relationship Idioms

- Blind Date: a date where the two people have never met before  
Dump someone: to end a relationship by telling him/her that you don't want to see them anymore  
Get hitched: get married  
Go dutch: a date where each person splits half of the expenses  
Hit it off: to get along well with someone (usually from the beginning)  
A match made in heaven: two people who are absolutely perfect for each other  
On the rocks: a relationship or marriage that is experiencing problems  
The One: the right partner (the one to marry)  
Pop the question: ask someone to marry you  
Puppy love: infatuation (strong feelings of love) between school-aged children or teenagers  
Tie the knot: get married  
Fall for someone: to fall in love with someone

### Business and Legal Idioms

- After the fact: after something has occurred/already happened  
By the book: to follow all the rules when you do something  
Crack down on: to enforce a law or a rule more strictly  
In lieu of: instead of (something)  
Null and void: worthless; canceled  
Off the record: unofficial; informal  
No strings attached: no obligations attached  
Across the board: including everyone or everything  
A bean counter: an accountant  
Face value: the official value or worth of something  
Red tape: rules and regulations that seem unnecessary  
Bang for the buck: value for the money spent

Figure out: find an answer by thinking about something  
Jack up: make a price higher

### Color Idioms

Grass is always greener on the other side: a place that is far away or different seems better than where we are now

Once in a blue moon: very rarely

Out of the blue: without any warning, by surprise (like coming out of a blue sky)

Red-eye: an airplane flight that leaves late at night and arrives early in the morning

Paint the town red: to go out and party and have a good time

Show one's true colors: to show what one is really like or really thinking

White elephant: a useless possession

With flying colors: with great or total success

Get the blues: to become sad or depressed

A golden opportunity: a great opportunity that might never come again

Get the green light: receive permission to go ahead with something/  
begin something

## 4.2. GLOSSARY OF TERMS OF FOREIGN CULTURES

Here are definitions of a few common terms from different cultures.

halal	meat prepared as prescribed by Muslim law
hindi	the official language of India
hindu	a follower of Hinduism
caste	hereditary social classes of Hindu society
hijab	the head covering worn in public by some Muslim women
chai	tea
tarof	the middle eastern custom of rejecting food or drink the first time it's offered out of politeness...even if you really want it.
burka	full body covering worn by women from some Muslim countries
diwali	indian celebration of lights, and most widely celebrated Hindu holiday
ramadan	Muslim month of fasting
eid	Muslim festival marking the end of Ramadan

### 4.3. RECIPES

#### Bean and Corn Chili over Puffed Tortillas (serves 16)

8 cloves of garlic, finely chopped  
1 T. oil  
2 (28 oz) cans tomatoes, drained  
1 T. ground cumin  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  tsp. black pepper  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  tsp. red pepper flakes  
2 (30 oz) cans kidney beans, drained reserving 1 cup of liquid  
1 (8 oz) cans chopped chilies, drained  
4 c. frozen corn kernels, thawed  
12 oz shredded Monterey Jack

HEAT tortillas on foil-lined sheet in 450 degree oven for 5 minutes until puffed. SAUTE onion and garlic in oil in large nonstick skillet three minutes. ADD tomatoes, cumin, pepper, pepper flakes, beans with liquid, and chilies. SIMMER five minutes. ADD corn; COOK 1 minute. TOP each tortilla with  $\frac{3}{4}$  cup of chili mixture. SPRINKLE with cheese.

#### Boba Tea (Bubble Tea)

2 c. white sugar  
2 c. brown sugar  
4 c. water

Syrup: Mix sugar and water in a large pot. Cook at medium to high heat. As soon as the sugar dissolves and the mixture boils remove from heat. Let cool and refrigerate.

Boba Bubbles:

2 cup large black or white tapioca pearls (these may be ordered online, if not available locally)  
16 cups water (one gallon)

### Cooking Bubbles

Bring the water to a vigorous boil in a large pot. Stir in the tapioca pearls slowly, so they do not stick together or sink into a clump. The tapioca pearls will soon rise to float in the water. As soon as they float, boil covered for about 20-30 minutes depending on the size of the tapioca pearls. Stir two or three times during cooking.

Turn the heat off and let the tapioca sit in the cooking water for another 25 minutes. Stir two or three times during soaking. Rinse the cooked tapioca pearls in tap water until the water runs clear and drain.

Cover with bubble tea syrup, stir to coat. Refrigerate covered if not used right away; they will keep three or four days before they get too mushy.

### To Serve:

Make two gallons of strong, sweetened tea. For a 16 oz cup, fill cup  $\frac{1}{4}$  full of boba. Add sweet tea and a shot of milk to desired taste. You may also add flavorings, commonly used in coffees and teas.

### Carrot Pudding (Gajar ka Halwa)

Gajar ka Halwa is probably the most popular and certainly the most famous of Indian sweet dishes. It originates from the the northern parts of India and although it takes a little bit of time to prepare, the steps to make this dessert are straight forward and simple. The effort will be greatly rewarded because this dessert is full of wonderful rich carrot and nutty flavor that will leave you craving for more.

2 Lb carrots (grated)  
1 cup sugar  
3 tablespoon butter  
1/2 cup condensed milk  
3/4 cup Khoya (use Ricotta Cheese if Khoya is not available)

### Garnish

1/4 cup cashews  
2 tablespoon dates

**Preparation:**

COOK carrot in butter on medium heat for 15-20 minutes. Stir well while cooking.

ADD the condensed milk, khoya, sugar and cook again in medium-low for 15-20 minutes.

GARNISH with the cashews and dates and serve.

Chai Tea (Serves 16)

Chai tea is rather a misnomer, as "chai" itself means tea in Hindi. This spicy milk tea is sometimes called masala chai. Traditionally, the Indian tea takes a long time to brew from freshly ground ingredients simmered over flames. Spices, milk, black tea, and sugar make up the key ingredients.

- 16 Tbs. black tea
- 24 whole cloves
- 2 tsp. ground ginger
- 4 tsp cinnamon
- 4 cup milk
- 16 cups water

**Preparation:**

Boil water, then simmer with cinnamon, ginger and cloves for about 10 minutes. Add tea and steep for another 5 minutes. Add milk and heat until near boiling. Strain out the spices and tea leaves. Add sugar to taste.

Cucumber Sandwiches

- 4 tablespoon prepared Ranch salad dressing
- 8 slices bread, toasted
- 1 cucumber, thinly sliced
- 4 tomato slices

Spread salad dressing on one side of each slice of toast. Layer cucumber and tomato on one slice; top with second slice.

### Easy Apple Crisp

4 large Granny Smith apples (2 lb.), peeled, thinly sliced  
1/2 cup packed brown sugar, divided  
2 tsp. ground cinnamon, divided  
1/3 cup old-fashioned or quick-cooking oats  
1/4 cup (1/2 stick) cold margarine  
25 Vanilla Wafers, crushed (about 1 cup crumbs)

HEAT oven to 350°F. Toss apples with 1/4 cup brown sugar and 1 tsp. cinnamon. Spoon into 8- or 9-inch square baking dish.

COMBINE oats, remaining brown sugar and cinnamon in medium bowl. Cut in margarine with pastry blender or 2 knives until mixture resembles coarse crumbs. Stir in wafer crumbs; sprinkle over apples.

BAKE 30 to 35 min. or until apples are tender. Optional: serve with whipped cream.

### Easy Baked Ziti (Serves 16)

2 pound ground beef  
6 cups ziti or your favorite pasta, cooked and drained (about 6 cups cooked)  
2 (26-ounce) jars spaghetti sauce  
16 ounces shredded mozzarella cheese  
1 1/2 cup grated Parmesan cheese, divided

Preheat oven to 375 degrees.

In a large skillet, brown meat and drain. Stir in ziti, spaghetti sauce, mozzarella cheese and 1/2 cup Parmesan cheese. Spoon into 9-by-13-inch baking dish. Top with remaining 1/4 cup Parmesan cheese. Cover and bake 20 minutes.

Note: when cooking for vegetarians follow the same recipe as above just replace meat with mushrooms or tomatoes (any veggies will do, canned or fresh). Omit the cheese to keep it vegan as well!



Fried Plantains (serves 16)

8 Crunchy not-yet ripe green plantains  
2 c. vegetable oil, approx.  
4 c. cold water with salt  
Cutting board or paper towel to smash slices

Heat oil in frying pan over medium heat. You should have 1/2 inch oil approximately. Peel plantains. Cut 1/4 inch slices on the slant. Place in frying pan when hot.

Cook each side about 1/2 minute until golden and hard looking. Remove from oil onto paper towel to drain.

Press each slice with board or towel on flat surface to make it almost flat. Dip into salted water. Return to frying pan and cook both sides again until crispy. Drain. Eat while hot. Serve with Haitian Cole Slaw.

Haitian Cole Slaw (serves 16-20)

4 heads of thinly sliced or shredded cabbage  
8 thinly sliced or shredded carrots  
4 sweet peppers  
4 thinly sliced or shredded onions  
4 tablespoons of salted water  
4 tablespoons of hot oil  
Juice of two limes  
2 Hot Pepper finely chopped

Mix all ingredients, let chill for two hours. Serve on fried plantains.

Indian Roasted Corn (serves 12)

Street vendors frantically fan their cart-top coal fires, gently roasting the corn cobs while people line up to buy this popular snack in India. Each vendor has his own secret spice rub which he then applies generously to the corn. Most of these include lime juice, salt and chili powder. Make some in your home for a quick, nutritious and tasty snack.

- 12 cobs of corn with small bits of stem left attached - the kernels must not be too soft
- 3 limes cut into quarters
- 2 T. salt
- 1 T. red chili powder

Mix the salt and red chili powder well and keep it aside on a plate.

If roasting on a coal fire, burn the coal until it is red hot. Roast the corn on it until done. (You can also roast/ grill the corn on your stovetop on a medium open flame.) Dip a lime wedge in the salt and chili powder mix and then rub all over the surface of the corn cob until well coated. Eat while still warm.

Mango Lassi (serves 16)

Mango Lassi is a traditional South Asian beverage. In fact it is one of the most popular beverages in Northern India and is very cooling on a hot day. Mango Lassi is also a favorite at Indian restaurants. This drink is a cross between a smoothie and a milk shake.

- 8 cup plain yogurt
- 4 cup milk
- 8 cup chopped mango (peeled and stone removed)
- 10 Tablespoons sugar, to taste

Put mango, yogurt, milk, and sugar into a blender and blend for 2 minutes, then pour into individual glasses, and serve. The Mango Lassi can be kept refrigerated for up to 24 hours.

### Pakorras

Pakorras are commonly sold by street vendors in many parts of India and Pakistan, wrapped in a newspaper cone. A typical pakora consists of a slice of potato or onions, coated with a mildly spiced batter and deep fried. Other vegetables or even fish or meats are also sometimes made into pakoras. Bollywood or not, this yummy snack is a must have at your next movie night!

### Batter

- \* 1 cup flour (can substitute Bisquick)
- \* 2 tablespoons oil
- \* 1 teaspoon ground cumin
- \* 1 1/2 teaspoons salt
- \* 1/2 cup water

### Vegetables

- \* 1-2 green chilies, chopped (jalapeno or your choice depending on heat pref.)
- \* 1 tablespoon cilantro, chopped
- \* 1 potato or yam, sliced 1/4 thick
- \* 1 small cauliflower, broken into very small florets
- \* 1 cup spinach leaves, torn
- \* 1 1/2 cups onions, halved and sliced

BOIL the potato or yam slices until \*just\* tender, being careful not to overcook.

MIX batter ingredients well. Beat in a blender for 4-5 minutes to incorporate air (this will make the batter fluffier). Let batter rest 1/2 hour in a warm place.

ADD the vegetables and mix in evenly.

DEEP FRY in oil that is heated to 375° until deep brown (somewhere between 4-6 minutes per batch). Drain on paper towels and serve immediately.

### Party Punch

1 (6 ounce) can frozen orange juice concentrate  
1 (6 ounce) can frozen lemonade concentrate  
3 liters lemon-lime flavored carbonated beverage  
1 quart raspberry sherbet

In a punch bowl combine orange juice concentrate, lemonade concentrate, and lemon-lime soda. Stir gently to mix, then slide the sherbet in.

### Thai Noodles:

9 c. chopped cabbage	2 t. crushed red pepper flakes
3 medium onions, chopped	1 ½ t. curry powder
1 ½ T. oil	3 cloves garlic, minced
18 ounce pasta	21 oz. coconut milk
2 c. crunchy peanut butter	
2 T. brown sugar	optional:
2 T. soy sauce	1 c. chopped green onion
2 T. Worcestershire	1 T. fresh cilantro
2 T. lime juice	1 T. fresh basil
	cooked chicken or shrimp, one lb. per lb. of noodles

Saute cabbage and onion in oil. Set aside in large bowl. Cook pasta until al dente. While pasta cooks, mix next 8 ingredients in a sauce pan. Heat gently, adding coconut milk gradually. Do not boil. Mix cooked pasta with sauce and veggies. Mix in green onion, cilantro, and basil.

## 4.4. SUGGESTED RESOURCE LIST FOR EFFECTIVE INTERNATIONAL MINISTRY

### Bibles in other languages

\* American Bible Society (60 languages)  
<http://store.bibles.com>

\* Ethnic Harvest has a website that links you to online, print and audio Bibles in 80+ languages: [www.ethnicharvest.org/bibles/](http://www.ethnicharvest.org/bibles/)

\* Chinese Treasures" CD ROM (2007)  
This CD-ROM includes a whole library of Chinese materials: searchable Chinese Bibles and Commentaries in both Simplified and Traditional scripts, Mandarin audio scriptures, and 200 additional Christian books and works in Chinese!  
[www.dbsbible.org/english/ct.htm](http://www.dbsbible.org/english/ct.htm)

Chinese note: 99% of Chinese Churches use the "Union version," so is best for those who will want to fit into a Chinese church. Seekers may prefer the simpler "New Chinese Version." Both of these versions come in either traditional or simplified script. Mainland Chinese generally prefer simplified script, while students from Taiwan & Hong Kong generally prefer traditional script.

### Investigative Bible study Guides

- Passport to the Bible, Multiple authors (1999 IV Press, 118p, paperback) is one of the very best Bible study leader's guides for international seekers and new believers. Written by ISM workers it offers excellent discussion questions on crucial passages from Genesis to Acts. Each lesson can "stand alone," so is good for inconsistent attendees.
- Storyteller's Bible Study, Bill Perry (Bill Perry, Multi-Language Media, 2002). This leaders' manual gives a chronological overview to stories throughout the Bible. It provides a good overview to the Old Testament leading up to the Promised One in the New Testament. Works best if students will commit to the 12-week study.

- Crossing Over With Parables (Bill Perry, Multi-language Media, 1997, 138p). Bible studies on the parables are great because they are simple, engaging, and have important “punch lines.” This study guide is a bit “wordy” but gives good background info on the parables. Each study can “stand alone” so it works for inconsistent attendees.
- The HOPE Video (Mars Hill Productions). This 88-minute narrated dramatization of the whole Story of the Bible is divided into 10 segments (approx. 8 minutes). Excellent, my students loved this video! Good diversity in narrators, too. There is a free study guide on the website written by the Reformed Evangelical church that is simple and very helpful for discussion afterwards.
- The Campus Alpha course. (Alpha USA, [www.studentalpha.org](http://www.studentalpha.org)) The Alpha Course has worked very effectively with international students. This revised 7 week “Campus” version (with lectures by Jamie Haith) has excellent 30-minute lectures. The idea of Alpha is a dinner, video, and open discussion (along with a “Holy Spirit” weekend).
- Many more individual Bible studies can be found at the bottom of the page on this InterVarsity website link: <http://www.intervarsity.org/ism/cat/41>

### Resource Books for ISFM Staff

- DNA of ISFM (Jerry Gibson, GPH, 25p) This booklet gives the core elements and suggestions for a Chi Alpha ISFM ministry on campus.
- The World at Your Door (Tom Phillips & Robert Norsworthy Bethany House Publishers, 1997, 230p.) Excellent, practical overview of international ministry.
- A Biblical Point of View on Islam (Kerby Anderson, Harvest House Publishers, 2008, 127p.) Very simple, insightful overview of Islam. Good for Christian student leader.

- The Case for Christmas (Lee Strobel, Zondervan, 96p minibook.) Gives answers to the miraculous birth. Good for Christmas gift
- The Case for Easter (Lee Strobel, Zondervan, 92p minibook) Journalist explores the resurrection. Good for Easter basket gift.
- The Stranger on the Road to Emmaus (John R Cross, Goodseed, 304p) This book presents the central message of the Bible chronologically in narrative form with lots of drawings/maps. It is designed for Christians who teach or share the Bible with others. Has accompanying workbook.

### Book table suggestions

- The Case for Christ (Lee Strobel, Zondervan, 1998, 132p) Journalist's investigation of the evidence for Jesus. Good for presenting an apologetic for the gospel.
- Song of the Wanderer (Li Cheng, PhD, ChinaConnections/Ambassadors for Christ). Highly effective for non-believing Mainland Chinese intellectuals. In-depth discussion with evidence designed for those searching for the truth. In English or Mandarin.

### Discipleship Materials

- The Alpha Course (Nicky Gumbel, video curriculum/student manuals, Alpha USA) Explore the Christian faith, 10 sessions + weekend retreat. Many groups have found Alpha groups especially helpful in establishing new believers in the basics of Christianity.
- The New Life: The Start of Something Wonderful, (Dave Williams, Decapolis Publishing, 1981, 85p minibook) Practical, concise workbook for beginning walk with Christ. 26 short lessons, includes the Baptism in the Holy Spirit.  
<http://www.mounthopechurch.org/store/ProductInfo.aspx?productid=0-938020-03-X>

- Mainland Chinese Literature, Ambassadors for Christ, Incorporated. This ministry is a great resource for inexpensive books, Bibles, and other resources for Chinese students.

[http://www.afcinc.org/afcsite/english/literature/mc-lit/mc\\_lit.htm](http://www.afcinc.org/afcsite/english/literature/mc-lit/mc_lit.htm)

#### Conferences:

- All Nations Conference, MOSAIC  
Life-changing student conferences put on by Chi Alpha. Very relational, include excursion day, international student leadership, electives, and inspiring speakers.
- ACMI (Association of Christians Ministering to Internationals). This annual STAFF ISFM training conference held in June rotates locations around the U.S. Provides excellent seminars, plenary speakers, and resource tables from experienced international workers from many different campus ministry organizations.

#### Websites:

Chi Alpha: [www.onemorefriend.org](http://www.onemorefriend.org) and [www.isfm.com](http://www.isfm.com)

Intervarsity: [www.intervarsity.org/ism/articles.php](http://www.intervarsity.org/ism/articles.php)

ISI: Religion profiles, country profiles & Bible studies  
[www.isionline.org/freematerials.htm](http://www.isionline.org/freematerials.htm)