

Increasing Congregational Competency

In Healthy Missional Practices

- * Brief introductions & question
- * Some “take-aways” hoped for
- * My Woodland BC story – the context for the presentation
- * Challenges of an ethnic member in a dominant culture
- * Challenges in congregational settings
- * The road to cross cultural competency within a congregation

Take-aways hoped for:

- * Reminder of changes in a congregation is a slow and Holy Spirit process
- * Discovering the uniqueness of each church body – *they are all not the same!*
- * Sensitive to congregants not representative (not just ethnic) of the dominant culture

Context - The Woodland story.....

- * Leaving a comfort zone but walking in obedience
- * Being prophetic is risky business!
 - * Introducing strength based perspectives
- * Understanding & influencing the church culture
 - * Use of self – guiding a planned change-> “helping the church have eyes to see the unseen”

The journey from cerebral to diversity

- * **Micro** - Moving out of a comfort zone when *comfortably well off!*
- * **Mezzo** – committee structures from silo to collaboration with each other
- * **Macro** – influencing the church DNA and it's culture – not wide but deep

Cross cultural communication

- * **Listen** – Listen & Listen some more!
- * **Becoming 150 percent persons**

Some Resources:

- * When Helping Hurts..... Corbett & Fikkert
- * Ministering Cross-Culturally...S. Lingenfelter
- * Cross-Cultural Conflict.....D. Elmer