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Simple Ways to Reach International Students

This list is just a spark to get you started on reaching out to international students near you. The list isn't complete, but it does offer some simple and easy ideas that might work for you and your church family.

- 1. Learn how to say common phrases in major languages. When you greet an international student in their native language, you'll have a new friend for sure!
- 2. Hand out t-shirts to new international students. They will love the reminder that you care about them.
- 3. Host a graduation party for international students. Their family may not be able to come and celebrate with them. Some cake and a card will be something they will remember forever.
- 4. Find one person in your church be the point person for international outreach, then give them a budget and turn them loose.
- 5. Invite an international student to read the scripture for the morning message during a worship service. They will consider it a huge honor, and they will most likely bring friends to join them.
- Schedule a day of prayer for international students at the beginning of each school semester.



- 7. Ask the university if you can set up table in the union with free books and literature about your church family.
- 8. Introduce yourself at the university to the office of international studies. Ask if you can help them in any way.
- Meet key leaders from different nations at university student organization meetings.
 These are often listed on the university website under Student Clubs or Organizations.
- 10. Host special events on Christmas or the Fourth of July and don't forget to pick up students from the dormitories on campus.
- 11. Could your Church hire an intern to serve internationals? You might be surprised by what happens.
- 12. Take international students to visit the zoo or to other popular tourist sites.
- 13. Invite international students to share on the worship team. They will be honored, and the music inspires both them and others.
- 14. Plan a spring banquet for internationals celebrating the end of their year at the university.
- 15. Offer Bible studies for international students, and help them find a Bible in their language.
- 16. Give students a welcome to town book or backpack as a gift.
- 17. Invite internationals to join intramural teams.
- 18. Offer to take international students with you to stores, so they can buy food or other things they need.
- 19. Buy the Jesus film in different languages for them to watch or see.
- 20. Encourage home Bible study groups to adopt an international student and connect with them regularly throughout the month.