“We are Parthians, Medes and Elamites”
The Bible on Our Multicultural Church

2. Growing up in Glendale, CA
   White, middle class, Protestant

4. LA County
   LA County Compared to the USA
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LA</th>
<th>USA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic/Latino</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Latino White</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>African American</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native American</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pacific Islander</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. 3.5 Million of LA County’s 10 Million
   Europe................., 172,000
   Africa ................56,000
   China............... 530,000
   Korea................. 300,000
   Philippines.......... 375,000
   Vietnam............. 88,000
   Mexico ............. 1,360,000
   Guatemala .......... 270,000
   El Salvador.......... 420,000

6. Ethnic Unrest
   1871 – Anti-Chinese Riots
   1943 – Zoot Suit Riot
   1965 – Watt's Riot
   1970 – Chicano Moratorium Police Riot
   1992 – Rodney King Riot

7. Multi Cultural Archdiocese
   Arabic, Aramaic, Armenian, Cambodian,
   Chaldean, Cantonese, Mandarin, Croatian,
   Tagalog, French, Garifuna, German,
   Guamanian, Haitian French, Spanish,
   Hungarian, Igbo, Syro-Malabar, Indonesian,
   Italian, Japanese, Korean, Lithuanian,
   Mayan, Polish, Portuguese, Samoan,
   Slavonic, Thai, Tongan, Ukrainian,
   Vietnamese

8. Complex Parishes
   St. Mary Magdalene, Camarillo
   5 English, 1, Spanish, 1 Vietnamese, 1 Latin

9. “English Speaking” doesn’t mean
   “Anglo”

10. “Puppy”

11. Watches

12. How to Solve the Dilemma

13. Three Perspectives
   Universalist: Human beings have more in common than the differences we experience.
   Evolutionist: All cultures develop on a continuum from primitive to civilized.
   Relationist: The boundaries of cultural worlds are permeable, and affected by neighboring cultural worlds.

14. What does the Bible Not Say
   “multi-cultural,” “inter-cultural,” “cultural appropriation

15. The Church’s Beginning
   Pentecost: Acts 2:1-12; Exodus 23:14-17
   When the Holy Spirit acts…people understand

16. Paul’s Ministry
   1 Cor 9:19-23: Becoming all things to all people
   No Mini-Me thinking

17. Early Troubles
   Acts 6:1-6
   The apostle bungle
   The problem was cultural, not religious
   A new ministry is formed
   The neglected become the ministers!
18. **Jewish and Gentile Christians**
Acts 11:1-3: No fraternizing!
Acts 15:1-2: Be like us for salvation

19. **Paul on Distinctions / Jesus on Welcoming**
Acts 15 – testimony from Paul, Barnabas and Peter
Paul: Rom 10:12 – no distinctions
Gal3:26-29 – you are all children of God
Jesus: John 6:35, 37 – “Whoever comes to me…”

20. **Important Notes from the Early Church**
Acts 15:19-20 – The Council of Jerusalem
The majority do not win.
The leaders do not impose their old norms.
Hospitality triumphs over "the way we've always done it."
A novel approach is tried – and succeeds!

21. **Last Words and Multi-Cultural Conclusions**
Jesus’ last directive: Matt 28:16-20

22. **Multi-Cultural Inter-Cultural**