

**TUTORIAL**  
**6.16**

# Becoming equipped to communicate 6

This tutorial continues to look at the *Becoming Equipped to Communicate* program, focusing on the last stage of learning, *Level 4: Relating through Lifeview Conversation*.

## Introduction

In this tutorial we will look at the last stage of the BEC program, Level 4. During this stage, learners will start to understand and talk about the beliefs that motivate the behaviour of people around them. They will be able to understand the opinions of others, as well as support their own opinions. They will learn to talk about the bigger issues in the world, and find ways to talk about concepts that are new to them but that they want to describe.

## Level 4: Relating through Lifeview Conversation

**Read:** *BEC* Pages 187-188

### Your proficiency goal for this level

On page 187 is a detailed description of the level you can expect to reach in your language ability and cultural understanding by the end of Level 4. Hopefully as you read that description you can imagine yourself at that place - where you feel a part of the community and can interact fairly naturally with people around you. It will be a lot of work to get there, but it *is* possible; many people have made that effort and have become functional members of a new community. It is an exciting privilege to have the opportunity to come from the outside and to gradually become an 'insider' into another culture and group of people. It is something that will change you and your perspective on the world around you forever.

## The Four Life Perspectives

**Read:** *BEC* Pages 189-198

The main learning activity used during Level 4 is *Liferview Conversation*. The conversations you will have with local people during this last stage of your learning program will be based on the outline introduced during Level 3 of the BEC - Four Life Perspectives, but it will be expanded to cover a lot more detail during Level 4.

On page 189 the BEC says:

*“In your Level 4 exercises, you will further explore these four life perspectives as you talk with community members. You want to know what people actually describe as their motivation for behaviour in the community. What do people appreciate and prioritise in their lives? What are their underlying beliefs about life? How do the beliefs that people claim actually measure up to what they typically do?.”*

These kinds of insights are so important because as you look forward to communicating God’s Truth with this group of people at a LATER date, you need to FIRST understand the ways that their thinking about life will be impacted by the Truth that you want to share with them. You want to later apply God’s Truth to their lives in ways that are relevant to them, but with an awareness of what correct and incorrect beliefs about life you are confronting in the process.

So, Level 4 activities are related directly to the overall goal you have: speaking into people’s lives with Truth. The Message that you came to bring has to cross the bridge of their culture and language and be engaging and relevant to them as they hear it. YOU must become that bridge and Level 4 exercises will make you more effective in that role. Even if you are not in a major teaching role, your life and conversation will still communicate. As you spend time in conversations on a number of relevant topics with a variety of people during Level 4, you will be gaining proficiency in language ability, and also learning a huge amount culturally about the ways people think and how they communicate those thoughts.

## **Liferview Conversation**

**Read:** BEC Pages 199-206

As you saw from the description of the *Liferview Conversation* learning exercise, conversations of this kind are not just ‘chitchat’ or ‘shooting the breeze’. They require thought and planning beforehand:

- finding people to talk with,
- planning a group of topics to cover during your conversation,
- developing good questions to ask for each topic,

- thinking carefully about cultural and relational issues for the particular person you will be speaking with,
- and following the correct procedure.

This takes practice! On page 201, *BEC* says “*You should practice the steps in your own language with people from your own community so that you have the process well in mind before you try in a second language.*”

In the activity for this tutorial you will review the process by carefully reading the instructions for how to conduct the *Liferview Conversation* activity, and you will plan topics and questions for a liferview conversation. For the next two tutorials you will have a conversation with two different people you know in your own community so you can practice the technique.



## ACTIVITIES

### *Becoming equipped to communicate 6*

1. Read the instructions again on pages 199 - 206 of the *BEC*. Prepare for one liferview conversation, which you will have with two different people sometime over the next few weeks (these conversations will be the activity for the two tutorials following this one).
  - Think of two people you know well, that you could have a conversation with - these can be family members or friends - your main goal is to practice the conversation technique.
  - Choose three topics with questions that would be appropriate to discuss with these two people. There are many examples of topics with questions given on pages 214- 294 of *BEC* - you can use these and adapt them to your culture and the people you have in mind.
  - Write out your topics and questions, following the steps of how the conversation should go, to remind yourself as you guide the conversation. (Simplified instructions are below for you to follow)
  - Plan to get together with your two friends - one at a time, and for around two hours for each person.
  - Get a recording device ready, so you can practice recording the conversation.