

## Life on the Rosebud “Rez”

### *Facts:*

1. Second poorest area in the U.S.
2. Approximately 75% unemployment.
3. On the Rosebud reservation it is not unlikely to find 10 or more people living in a house the same size as yours.
4. The suicide rate of Native Americans is 5 times higher than any other ethnic group.
5. It is said that after 500 years of missionary work on Native Americans, only 3-5% are born-again Christians.
6. In Native American culture, the deeds of a group’s ancestors are always remembered.
  - a. If the Sioux Indians were killed by the Apache Indians, there may be discord, hatred and division for hundreds of years.
  - b. Since our American forefathers killed, raped, and stole from Native Americans centuries ago, we are still held accountable.
    - i. Yes, they need to forgive.
    - ii. But, we need to be apologetic as a culture and saying “sorry” is not enough. How could we as a country pay for the atrocities we caused on the Native American people? As a youth group?
7. Alcoholism and abandoned children are very present and real dangers on reservations. Approximately 75% of all homes are affected by alcoholism.
8. Rates of sexual abuse against children are the highest in Native American communities.
9. A white-faced, blue-eyed Jesus is not an appealing person for a Native American to put their trust, hope, lives and total faith into. How should Jesus be presented?
10. Native American men used to find their self-worth in hunting, protecting their village, and raising up warriors.
  - a. How do you think you’d respond if the ways you used to find your purpose and self-worth were taken away?
  - b. Is it surprising that Native Americans reject the white-man’s world?
  - c. Is it surprising that if Jesus is presented as the white-man’s religion they’d reject Him too?

11. Yet, Christ is still doing amazing things on reservations all across America. We must pray!

- a. Rev 7:9-10 "After this I looked and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. 10 And they cried out in a loud voice: "Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb."
- b. God is drawing people all across the world to worship Him.