

Media



✔ Prepare in Advance

- Have the *Bible Background Video* ready to view.
- Retrieve, review, and have ready the videos listed below (links are provided on this session's webpage).

✔ Acceptance

Show the *Bible Background Video* followed by the "Church Chat" and/or "I Want To Be A Clone" music clips, then use any or all of these questions to promote discussion:

- In what ways do the words or spirit of these songs reflect this passage?
- To what degree do you think your congregation emphasizes a particular expression of Christianity over others and why?
- For what kinds of activities do you think your congregation looks down upon other people and why?
- What kinds of things do you think people in your congregation commonly do, but wouldn't encourage others to do and why?
- Who do you think would find more acceptance in your congregation and why: someone who lives a good life, but doesn't attend church, or someone who comes to church, but does somethings that most church members feel is improper?
- How does a group help its members get past their reluctance to accept people who do things differently?

✔ React to This

Play the "Saved" and/or "Squirrel Revival" videos, stopping briefly after each for any comments, then ask questions like:

- How do these videos relate to the precious discussion?
- Tell about another person who you or someone you know looked down upon due to their divergent religious beliefs and practices. How do you think this affected or still affects your faith?
- What are the "non-negotiables" of your religious practice? In other words, what things **MUST** someone do and what things must someone **NOT** do if you are to feel comfortable worshipping with them? Where do those come from?

- If someone decides to join your congregation or group, but they ask you what they should or should not do in order to fit in, what would you tell them?
- As the study asked: How do we find ways to exist in our church families with people who make different behavioral and even moral decisions that we make?
- Why might other individuals choose to not accept your faith, based on your practices?
- How might you reach out to such a person?

✔ Close

Invite a couple of volunteers to share about some person or group whose religious practices they do not understand. Close with a prayer that you can better relate to such people and learn to accept them as God accepts them.

by David Adams

