

# Media



## ✓ Prepare in Advance

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

## ✓ Great Expectations

Show the *Bible Background Video* followed by the Steve Taylor and/or Derek Webb music clips, then use any or all of these questions to promote discussion:

- How do you think that these songs relate to the passage of scripture?
- What do you think are the most recognizable aspects of your congregation in the community at large?
- In what ways do you think they affect the way your congregation is perceived by outsiders?
- What kinds of expectations does your congregation have of its members (officially or not) and how do you think they affect congregational life?
- What, if anything, do you think your congregation might be proud of, even though it shouldn't be?
- How do you think Christian groups can get past making barriers for other people and instead better open up access to their faith?

## ✓ React to This

Play the "Finding Forrester" and/or "Robin Hood" clips, stopping briefly after each for any comments, then ask questions like:

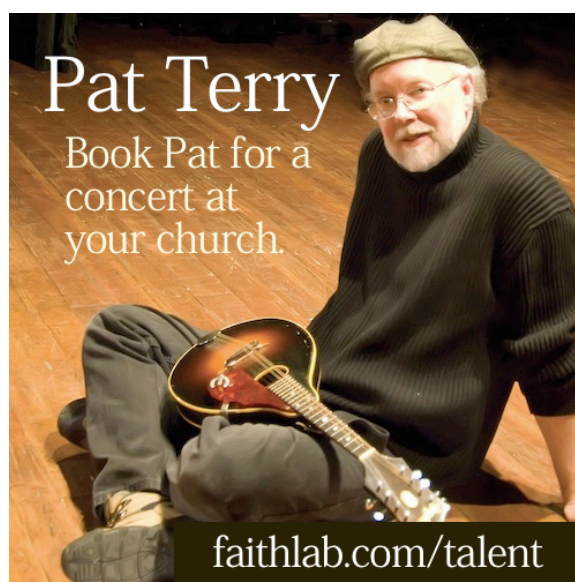
- How are these video clips related to the passage we read?
- Under what circumstances, if ever, have you encountered someone who doubts your faith commitment?
- How would you respond when faced with someone who says your faith is not "true" because it doesn't meet certain criteria that they chose?
- At what points might you use some criteria as the basis of doubting someone else's faith?
- How are such barriers to cooperation with others typically created?
- How does one witness with integrity to someone whose experience of faith was tainted by an experience of rejection?

- What can someone do to get past external criteria and offer grace to people who might be different?

## ✓ Close

Invite volunteers to name a type of person whose faith life they might question as authentic, based on their own criteria. Close with a prayer that you can all learn to look past our expectations for faith and better accept people as Jesus would.

**By David Adams**



## Church Websites

Get FaithLab to develop your new church website and help support FaithElement.

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