

Pt. 3: Scared to be Different

Questions for further study and application:

Day 1 It's a natural desire to want to be liked, accepted, and appreciated by our family, our friends, and our peers. Did you know that God doesn't care about those things? God isn't worried about how many Facebook friends you have or how many people follow you on Instagram or Twitter. In fact, the purpose of God calling you to be different is not to fit in, but to stand out. A spiritual transformation is something that takes place from the inside out. Read 1 Peter 2:9-10. How is God calling you to stand against the norm of today's culture?

What's New?

Waters Edge is offering summer volunteering. It's a great change of pace and the perfect time to try something new. There will be short-term quick-start volunteer positions with zero experience necessary that will last through July and August. Sign up at watersedgechurch.net/summervolunteers.

- Day 2 To be different; you need a heart change. People need to see that you are different by dressing appropriately, with the words you use or don't use, and by the way you act. This takes courage because it's much more comfortable to try to blend in and do what everyone else is doing. Being courageous isn't necessarily the same as being fearless. It's the ability to overcome your fears about being different in this world and do the right things. Read 1 Corinthians 16:13. Are you walking so close to the world that often you cannot be distinguished from it?
- Day 3 No one likes the feeling of being left out, and from day to day it becomes easy to just go with the flow just to fit in. It can be intimidating to stand out and live differently. Yet, who you are determines what you do. Read Deuteronomy 7:6-8. As a person of faith, you have been chosen by God. He chose you to be part of a royal priesthood. This means you have unlimited access to God anytime, anywhere. He is giving you His best, giving you His time, giving you His unconditional love and attention. When you have a relationship with God, you will never be left out.
- Day 4 David's lineage and ancestry is quite impressive. It's filled with some impressive men and women of faith. Each of these people contributed to the man David was to become. They weren't perfect, and even David had a few missteps, but they all persevered. They persevered because God's love for them never waivers. It's the exact same for you. Read Romans 8:38-39. Even though you will make mistakes, feel rejected, or feel unworthy of His love, nothing can ever separate you from His love.
- Day 5 Read 2 Corinthians 7:1. Holiness isn't the path to knowing Jesus; instead, knowing Jesus is the path that leads to holiness. You have been set apart to be different. You have been called to live a life that brings glory to God. When you pursue God's will as Jesus did, nothing will keep you from fulfilling it. Let Him continue His work in you; in your heart to be a blessing to your family, your friends, and your peers. Be proud to be different!