

Lesson 2: How do I find acceptance?

1. In the diagram below, list some things that people either reveal or hide about themselves when online?

UNFILTERED VERSION

- *Eg: Posting bad parts of the day online, showing unedited photos, keeping bad photos posted*

FILTERED VERSION

- *Eg: Showing the best holidays, showing that we're always with others, only posting photos with the best hair or outfits*

2. What is the difference between fitting in and being accepted?

Fitting in is doing things to be liked. Being accepted is having the shameful parts of ourselves be known and still being valued and welcomed.

3. Using the words provided, fill in the gaps to the statements below:

ACCEPT • ENOUGH • PROTECTED • REJECTED • REAL • REALLY KNOW

- a) To be liked is nice but not **ENOUGH**. To put our true selves out there and be **REJECTED** is our biggest fear. But to have somebody **REALLY KNOW** us and still **ACCEPT** us is one of our greatest desires.

- b) We settle for revealing fake and filtered versions of ourselves so that the **REAL** version of us stays **PROTECTED**.

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4. According to the video, what is unique about Christianity?

God fully knows us more than anyone else can and he still accepts us.

5. What might be some consequences in life that people may experience if they weren't able to be truly accepted?

Answers could include: Hard to ask for help, feel more lonely/isolated, make riskier choices to get momentary feelings of fitting in

CONSIDER THIS...



If there was a God who could really know you and truly accept you, what would it mean for you?

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INVESTIGATIVE BIBLE STUDY – Jesus & the Woman at the Well

- **Goal:** Show how Jesus fully knew and truly accepted people.
- Context for students: Samaritans were looked down upon by others.
- **Read John 4:1-30**
 1. **Other than drinking water, what might people do at a well? (4:1-7)**
It was a meeting place. Like a drink fountain at school. Meet, chat and drink.
 2. **What water do you think Jesus was speaking about that leaves people never thirsty? (4:13-15)**
Jesus was referring to himself. It's something that he offers.
 3. **Why did the woman think Jesus was a prophet? (4:17-19)**
He knew about her past history of relationships like only a mindreader could.
 4. **How did the disciples feel about Jesus speaking with her? (4:27)**
*Surprised he'd talk to a woman. Culturally it wasn't acceptable.
Stunned/disapproving of him speaking to a Samaritan.*
 5. **What does this story show us about Jesus?**
Jesus knows everything we have ever thought or done and still accepts us.
 6. **How is this story about Jesus similar or different to the 'How do I find acceptance video?'**
Both had characters who felt ashamed over things that had them rejected.