

Don't Think Others Should Be Just Like You

I. Introduction:

A. This lesson is in NO WAY intended to be taken as a unity in diversity lesson regarding the ONE FAITH (**Philippians 3:16**).

1. Teaching cannot vary amongst congregations (**I Corinthians 4:17**).
2. The expectation is of like-mindedness (**II Corinthians 13:11**) as becometh [worthy] of the Gospel (**Philippians 1:27**).

B. To establish my point a bit right from the jump, unity according to the will of the Lord, is to be one as they are one (**John 17:20-23**).

1. The Father, Son, and Spirit are one (**I John 5:7**), but are also separate beings (**Matthew 3:16-17**).
2. They had/have unique roles (**I Corinthians 11:3**).
 - a. The Father sent the Son for a unique role (**I John 4:14**).
 - b. The Father sent the Spirit for a unique role (**John 14:26**).
 - c. **Do not take the points above as the whole of the work of God, just a simple example of uniqueness while unified.*

II. Body: The Local Church Is Not Intended To Have All The Members The Same As Each Other (**I Corinthians 14:24-27**).

A. Some are more capable in certain areas than others (**Matthew 25:14-15**).

1. However, even if you're MR. or MRS. AMAZING, how should you view others (**Philippians 2:3-11**)?
2. Should you think so highly of yourself that you think you are the epitome of manhood or womanhood (**Romans 12:3**)?
3. At the end of the day, regarding the flesh, you and I are just dirt (**Genesis 3:19**).
4. Whatever it is you can do, remember to whom you should give the glory for that (**I Peter 4:9-11**).
5. The fact is and always will be, Christians have different roles to fill as we are not all alike (**Romans 12:4-5**).

B. Within the realm of authorized liberties, some make choices different than others (**I Corinthians 7:6-8** and **I Corinthians 9:5**).

1. Some choose to celebrate certain days while others don't (**Romans 14:5-6**).
2. Some choices will leave some in a better spiritual position than others, but that doesn't make those choices wrong (**I Corinthians 7:31-34**).
 - a. Having children is an additional distraction because of the work entailed therein (**Proverbs 4:1**, **Proverbs 22:6**, **Proverbs 29:15**, and **Colossians 3:21**).
 - b. Yet, if it is taught not to marry and have children there would be no chance of elders (**Titus 1:5-6**).

C. It is wrong for you to measure others by considering yourself to be the standard (**II Corinthians 10:12**).

1. It is not who or what you think is something that matters, but rather who the Lord commends that matters (**II Corinthians 10:18**).

2. Don't seek to glorify yourself (**Proverbs 25:27**).

3. Think about those that use worldly standards to declare what is good or great (**Luke 16:15**).

a. "He is uneducated" (**I Corinthians 3:18-19**).

b. "She is not attractive" (**Proverbs 31:30**).

c. "They are not successful" (**Proverbs 13:7**).

d. "He is not very manly looking" (**Isaiah 53:2-3**).

III. Conclusion: Consider what matters most (**Jeremiah 9:23-24**).