

## **We are all the same as unique individuals**

### *Starter a*

Have you ever suffered through a day/week/life where nothing you seem to do is right? People nagging at you for tiny things, nothing you do is up to their standards. Or maybe you are just being yourself and everyone is telling you that your personality is all wrong. Or that time when you walk down the street or sit down in a church and mothers warn their kids to keep away from you because you must be trouble because, you are wearing a cap, or you have a piercing, or you are a student, etc. How does it make you feel?

### *Starter b*

Show the Video Clip in "10 things I hate about you (12)"

Near the beginning - Boy starting a new school and is being introduced to all the different social groups in the school. (Make sure you have it set up to the right place before you start the sentence before the clip is inappropriate for use.)

Talk about whether their school has groups. In crowds, out crowds, computer geeks, boffins, snobs etc... What are the people in these groups like?

### *Discussion Questions*

Does our society pigeon hole people?

Why do people belong to social groups?

If you were moving to a new area what sort of people would you look at hanging around with? What people would you avoid?

Is it easy to make quick judgements about people by the way they look? Is this a good thing or a bad thing?

### *Read*

Romans 3:9

From this verse how do you think the Jews felt about people who are not Jew (Gentiles)? Is this how you can feel about other groups of people around you?

### *Read*

Romans 3:9 - 26

From these verses how do you think God feels about different groups of people?

### *About you*

In life we have a great power to make quick judgement about people and situations. This is really useful at keeping us safe. You choose not to run up and hug the drunken man waving the machine gun about. It can cause us to write people off as no good unfairly just because of how they look or what they say.

In this bit of the bible God is saying we all mess up and that no-one can live up to God's perfect standards. Remember this, when you are sitting back feeling smug that you never do anything too bad or when you are really upset at someone doing something

bad to you, God sees what you do as bad as what they do. On the flip side however, nothing you can do is worse than they do no matter how awful you feel about it. This means you can never use the excuse "I am too bad to go to church." In Gods eyes the stuff we do wrong is the same, we all mess up and don't live up to God standards. **BUT** that isn't where the passage ends.

We are all the same in messing up so God gave us one way to be put right with Him. This means that we could chat to Him, get His help, be a part of His world-wide family, be encouraged by Him, get involved in improving the world with His help. This way was given to really quite good people anyway, rich people, cool people, clever people but not just them it was given to everybody and that everybody includes you. God has given you a way to have a relationship with Him. Why? Because it would be mean of Him to miss you out and He is a good guy? NO! Because He loves you and longs to chat to you about your life and generally spend time with you the way a perfect friend or parent would want to.

#### *To do*

Look around at the people you meet and realise how much God sees you as the same as them in what we do and then think how much He values each individual and longs to have a relationship with them. Talk to God about how you feel about that.