

FACILITATION HELP: ACCEPTABLE

Part of facilitating a small group involves helping students to work through lots of tasks, including memorization and service projects. It matters, though, that we help the students to remember a key point: Doing all of this work is not making them any more acceptable to God. They're not earning His approval. They already have all of God's love and acceptance that they're ever going to get through faith in Christ. We discipline ourselves to learn more about God and to walk with Him because we love Him and want to know Him better—not because He will withhold Himself from us if we don't. Our students need to hear us say that occasionally, especially those who are driven to perform and achieve for approval.

**STUDENT LESSON
VIDEO***Ugly? Beautiful? Both?*AwanaJourney.com**CORE
CONCEPTS**

The Church serves as the representative of
God's kingdom on earth.

ESSENTIALS QUESTION: WHAT IS THE CHURCH?**STUDENT DISCUSSION 1:**

WHAT ARE THE SIMILARITIES AND DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE CHURCH IN ACTS AND THE CHURCH NOW?

STUDENT DISCUSSION 2:

BASED ON ACTS 2:42-47, WHAT PART OF THE FIRST CHURCH DO YOU WISH YOU SAW MORE OF IN YOUR OWN CHURCH?

STUDENT DISCUSSION 3:

HOW WOULD YOU RESPOND TO SOMEONE WHO SAID THAT THEY DON'T LIKE CHURCHES BECAUSE OF ALL THE HYPOCRITES PRETENDING TO BE GOOD PEOPLE?

DROP THE MIC >>**CONCLUDE YOUR DISCUSSION WITH:**

- » **ACTION PLAN:** *How do you plan to think and act differently?*
- » **FINAL REFLECTION:** *The Church is intended to be the light of the world, an outpost of life in a world of darkness and death. Even though believers stumble and fail, we must continually strive to represent the kingdom of God to the best of our ability.*
- » **FINAL QUESTION:** *Are we living as visible and consistent ambassadors of Christ?*