



The Third Option: Part 1

Pastor Miles McPherson / September 10, 2018

Opening Prayer:

Heavenly Father, thank you for breath in our lungs, eyes to see, and ears to hear. May we be attentive to the Holy Spirit's leading as we learn to understand what it means to truly become brothers and sisters in Christ.

Icebreaker:

The third option – Acknowledging what we all have in common, the image of God. – give examples.

In-Group/Out-Group bias – The way we sort people into groups that are either, “like me” or “not like me,” creating “Us” vs. “them”. Give some examples of where you have seen this. At work? At school?

Encouragement:

Even though there are many differences between us we can all be united under the authority of Christ. Read 1 Corinthians 12:26 “If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it.” We need to be aware of how we view both others and our selves.

Read the differences between “In-group” and “Out-group” bias below as a group:

In-group bias:

1. I am more comfortable with those like me.
2. I am more inclined to spend time socially with those like me.
3. I am more patient with those like me.
4. I give the benefit of the doubt quicker to those like me.
5. I express more grace given when mistakes are made by those like me.
6. It is easier to communicate with those like me.
7. I assume you will get along with easier with those like me.
8. I am more willing to go out of my way to help those like me.
9. I possess more positive assumptions about those like me.

Out-group bias:

1. I am less comfortable with those not like me.
2. I am less inclined to spend time socially with those not like me.
3. I am less patient with those not like me.
4. I give the benefit of the doubt slower to those not like me.
5. I express less grace when mistakes are made by those not like me.
6. It is more difficult to communicate with those not like me.

