



## PART 1: *One* WITH SELF WEEK 3: ACCEPTANCE

*[This week we explore the human desire for acceptance by contrasting Christianity with the dominant non-religious worldview of our culture: secular humanism, which is the belief in human autonomy, value, progress and empowerment, apart from any supernatural realities.]*

**WARM UP 1:** In what ways have you experienced the worldview of humanism, e.g. in movies, TV, social media, at work, in family?

**WARM UP 2:** If someone said to you, "Christianity teaches people to believe in God, whereas humanism teaches people to believe in themselves", how would you respond?

1. The Apostle Paul wrote, "Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God." (Romans 15:7) What does it mean to be 'accepted' in the Bible?
2. Humanism teaches that no action is 'wrong' (because there are no absolutes) and that people have autonomy to do what they want, as long as it isn't harmful (harm has many definitions). How is this kind of 'acceptance' different to what we find in the Bible?
3. Read 1 John 1:8-10. Why is it necessary to acknowledge wrongdoing and seek forgiveness in order to find acceptance? Have you done this?
4. What might be the consequences of 'accepting' everyone without any regard to absolute morality or acknowledgement of wrongdoing? Do you feel pressure to do this in our society?
5. In what ways does the life, death & resurrection of Jesus affirm human value, progress and empowerment, even more than humanism does?

**PASS IT ON:** Who in your life needs to hear this truth?