



Everybody 2 :: *Everybody Is Included* :: Andy Stanley

INTRODUCTION

Most people don't have a problem with God. After all, plenty of people show up for church on Christmas and Easter. Unfortunately, people *do* have a problem with the church. For centuries Christians have made Christianity so complex that people simply write it off as irrelevant and confusing. In this session we'll see how this problem surfaced in the very early days of the church, how they dealt with it then, and how we should deal with it now.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How were you introduced to Christianity? Did it seem simple or complicated at the time?
2. Read Acts 15:1-2. The Jewish Christians were adding circumcision to the list of things you needed to do in order to become a Christian. Over the years, and especially today, how have Christians complicated the message of Christianity?
3. Read Acts 15:3-11. Why do people display a tendency to make things complicated?
4. What is the simple message of Christianity?
5. Read Acts 15:12-21. How can we continue to keep the message of Christianity easy and accessible to people?
6. What is the danger of becoming insider-focused? What happens when we make church difficult and confusing?

THINK ABOUT IT

Too many churches have been building walls instead of bridges. Too many churches have turned in their search lights for security lights. How can we keep the focus on those outside the faith?

WHAT WILL YOU DO?

Where will you serve? How can you partner with your church to keep the message of Christianity easy and accessible to those who haven't heard it?

CHANGING YOUR MIND

It is my judgment, therefore, that we should not make it difficult for the Gentiles who are turning to God. Acts 15:19