

HELEN SANDERS  
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BE AN ORIGINAL

We see a lot of mockingbirds in Florida. They are known for their ability to sound like other birds. They are not the real bird singing, they are deceivers trying to counterfeit the real bird.

There are many people that walk like, sound like, and speak like those that they follow in ministry. After being around a leader for a long time you often take on their walk and speech. You can see it throughout the body of Christ. Instead of being an original, they are a copy of someone else.

I think people should be what God created them to be. He designed you to be a one-of-a-kind original my friend. You may be short, or tall, or you may be overweight, or you may be blonde, brunette, or you may be bald, but you still are an original.

The only person that we should try to be like is Jesus. Paul admonished the church at Corinth when he wrote in 1 Corinthians 1:11-12, ***“<sup>11</sup> For it hath been declared unto me of you, my brethren, by them which are of the house of Chloe, that there are contentions among you. <sup>12</sup> Now this I say, that every one of you saith, I am of Paul; and I of Apollos; and I of Cephas (Peter); and I of Christ.”***

Divisions arose because they were following after a person instead of following after Christ. In 1 Corinthians 11:1 it says ***“Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ.”*** In other words, follow the Christ in the person. When you follow Christ, and you cannot go wrong.

Jesus allows us to be individuals, but we are transformed into his image through following him. We still retain our own individual identity, but Christ is seen in us. Often, we settle for the Christ seen in others instead of the Christ that wants to be seen in and through us.

Be an original for Jesus. Do not settle for being a carbon copy of someone else. Yes, we can learn from others, but do not become like them. Become like Jesus. An original is far more valuable than any copy could be!