

**ACCIDENTAL PHARISEES
Journeyman, October 2, 2013**

Session 4: "Exclusivity:

"When Thinning the Herd is More Important than Expanding the Kingdom"

Review:

- Shoulder Pharisees = Pride & Comparison
- How do we avoid pride and arrogant comparison while pursuing holiness and obedience? = Biblical view of obedience
- Luke 17:7-10

The "Bleeding" Pharisee or "Self Inflicting"

Characteristics of a Herd Thinner:

1. Us versus them mentality.
2. Our holiness /piety demands separation.
3. We fear lowering the bar of discipleship.

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION

1. Have you ever found yourself drawn toward an expression of Christianity that emphasized “thinning the herd” more than “expanding the kingdom”? If so, what are some of the areas and issues you focused on? How would you respond differently today?
2. As we saw, a bias toward (or a delight in) thinning the herd is spiritually dangerous and out of line with Jesus. If you had to confront someone who preferred thinning the herd to expanding the kingdom, what would you say to them?
3. Obviously, there is a time and a place to thin the herd. Jesus did so. Can you think of some areas today where we need to thin the herd?