

**Faith Comment published in the Petersfield Post**

**30 May 2010: Rev'd Anderson Marsh, Assistant Curate,  
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**Time to live life that is ours**

It's so easy to look at others around us and compare our lives to those we think have it better than us.

We want to look, articulate, have the same intellect, wear the same branding of clothing, have the latest gadget as those we admire because in some strange way it's going to make us better people, it's going to help us feel better.

Yet we don't see beyond the looks, the well thought out words, the mask of respectability we all wear, we don't see through these to the broken life, that person we admire wears a mask just like us, only when they are on their own does it slip, they are no better or worse than us if they only knew.

I think there are plenty of people who look at us with envy, wishing they were just like us. I think that's an important point to remember, surely it's better to try to be the best version of you that you can than trying to be a poor imitation of someone else?

So let's stop living pretend lives and live the life that is ours, our God-given life. Let's start being honest with one another, develop a culture of care for each other. That way we can start loving who we are and not striving to be someone else, because they are better than we are, or so we think.

God, after all, made each one of us, we are each unique, there never has been anyone like us or ever will be again. God loves us beyond words and time. I think it's time we began to accept ourselves as God accepts us.

