



*Have you ever wondered what drives a person to take his own life by leaping off a bridge, slashing his wrists, intentionally overdosing on medication or holding a gun to his head and pulling the trigger?* The answer – in most cases, he is driven to the brink of despair by the overwhelming feeling that nobody 'likes' him or cares about him. Hence, by setting out to take his life, he is actually pleading for people to give him the attention that he so desperately craves.

In essence, it all boils down to people's need to be liked and feel accepted. For some people, the need to be liked and feel accepted is so overwhelming that they allow it to dominate their entire existence. The food they eat, the clothing they wear, the partner they marry – almost every choice they make in life is based on how it will resonate with people and how many 'likes' it will receive.

The reality of the matter, however, is that these 'likes' do not mean that people actually like us. Rather, they merely like the image and lifestyle which we portray to them. It is for this reason that if one has to post something that clashes with the popularist culture, condemnation will be swift and merciless. Those very followers who once fanatically followed us and liked our every post will now turn against us, troll us, label us and 'lynch' us online. Such is the fickleness of such followers and such is the fallacy of their likes and loyalty which shifts as rapidly as the wind...

The solution, to the human need for acceptance and to be liked, is to change our focus. Instead of anxiously waiting for random people to approve of us and like us, we need to realize that we only need ONE like to be happy and feel accepted – the 'like' of Allah Ta'ala. Instead of 'bending over backwards' to impress people, we must rather make every effort to please Allah Ta'ala and secure His 'like', for when Allah Ta'ala blesses a person with His divine 'like' and acceptance, it fills the heart with such happiness that even if the entire world rejects you, it will be of little consequence to you and will not greatly affect you.

## How Many 'Likes' are Enough?

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Nabi Nooh ('alaihi salaam) had very few followers as the majority of his people rejected him and did not 'like' him (as they did not wish to abandon their evil and sin). The same applies to Nabi Loot ('alaihi salaam) and many other Ambiyaa ('alaihimus salaam). Even our beloved Rasulallah (sallallahu 'alaihi wasallam) was boycotted and ostracized by the Quraish in the early days of Islam. However, despite the lack of popularity and 'likes' among the masses, they knew, without a shadow of doubt, that as long as they had the 'like' of Allah Ta'ala, they had nothing to worry about (read more on this topic [here](#)).

*Remember, we don't need a thousand, a hundred, or even ten 'likes' to be happy. All we need is one like – the 'like' of Allah Ta'ala which is earned through pleasing Him.*