





People always talk about how you should be tolerant of others – especially those people or cultures that are different from us. Those who say this may mean well, yet “tolerate” isn't really the right word. To say you're going to “tolerate” someone who isn't exactly like us makes people who are different sound like bugs at a picnic . . . something we put up with because we can't get rid of them. That's not a very good attitude to take.

That is why we shouldn't just tolerate differences – we should CELEBRATE them. Just like a bouquet of flowers is more wonderful when it includes blossoms of all different varieties, and an ice cream shop looks more appealing when it has many different flavors besides just plain old vanilla, our differences are more than just nuances to be tolerated. They are something to celebrate, something to cherish, something to admire, and something to enjoy. So don't just tolerate others who are different from you. Savor those differences like you would a fine flower, and enjoy them like a new flavor of ice cream. Let's be sure to celebrate all the wonderful ways we are each so unique.

