



PERFECT

PREPARE 



BEFORE YOU BEGIN

TALK TOGETHER

WHAT IS SOMETHING IMPOSSIBLE FOR YOU TO DO NO MATTER HOW HARD YOU TRY?

One thing impossible for everyone to do is to be perfect. But every day the world around us tells us that if we look or act a certain way we will be perfect. We are also told that if we do a lot of good things for people we will be good enough.

This isn't a new problem. The Bible tells us Jesus saw people around Him trying to be perfect. Pharisees and religious teachers at the time taught people to follow traditions and extra rules. People believed doing these things would make them holy and perfect.

What do you think Jesus had to say about these people? Let's read what He said from the Bible. **Can you help me find Matthew, chapter 6, verses 1-4? The book of Matthew is in the New Testament.**



TALK TOGETHER

Family conversations with God's Word.



MORE TO EXPLORE

Discover how this conversation fits into God's Big Story.



THRU-THE-WEEK SHEET

Post it on the fridge. Use it all week.



COLORING PAGE

Keep little hands busy before, during and after your family conversation.



****BEWARE OF PRACTICING YOUR RIGHTEOUSNESS BEFORE OTHER PEOPLE IN ORDER TO BE SEEN BY THEM, FOR THEN YOU WILL HAVE NO REWARD FROM YOUR FATHER WHO IS IN HEAVEN.***

****THUS, WHEN YOU GIVE TO THE NEEDY, SOUND NO TRUMPET BEFORE YOU, AS THE HYPOCRITES DO IN THE SYNAGOGUES AND IN THE STREETS, THAT THEY MAY BE PRAISED BY OTHERS. TRULY, I SAY TO YOU, THEY HAVE RECEIVED THEIR REWARD. BUT WHEN YOU GIVE TO THE NEEDY, DO NOT LET YOUR LEFT HAND KNOW WHAT YOUR RIGHT HAND IS DOING, SO THAT YOUR GIVING MAY BE IN SECRET. AND YOUR FATHER WHO SEES IN SECRET WILL REWARD YOU.****

(MATTHEW 6:1-4)

The Pharisees wanted to be seen. They spent their time making a big show of what they did and how much they gave to the poor. They thought what they did made them perfect and proved how righteous they were. But really they were thinking more about themselves than about God. They wanted to be noticed and praised.

Jesus wants us to understand that if we do what we do because we love God, then who sees us doing it shouldn't matter. When we make doing things for God more important than being seen by others, we are becoming more like Jesus.

Wanting to be seen wasn't the Pharisees' only problem. They were trying to be perfect on their own. But because of sin, they could never be perfect.

What are ways people still try to be perfect?

Some people try to be seen serving as much as they can in their church or community. Other people read their Bible a lot and make sure friends and family know. Maybe you know people who brag about how much they help the poor or needy.

These things aren't bad; in fact, they are great things that we should all do! But when we are doing things to make ourselves look perfect and because of the praise we get, we are missing the mark.

What do you do to be noticed by others? Do you do the things you do to look perfect or because you love God and want to be like Him?

We can never be perfect on our own. In fact, we will never be perfect until we are in heaven. But there is good news! God loves us! He wants a relationship with us and will help us grow to become more and more like Him every day.



GOD'S BIG STORY

CREATION



EVERYTHING GOD CREATED WAS GOOD.

FALL



ADAM & EVE SINNED, AND SIN PASSED TO ALL PEOPLE, EVEN YOU AND ME.

REDEMPTION



THOUGH ALL OF US ARE SINNERS, CHRIST DIED FOR US.

RESTORATION



JESUS WILL COME AGAIN.

FIND IT IN THE BIBLE: MATTHEW

This week's story comes from the book of Matthew. Matthew is the first of four books known as the Gospels. The author of this book is likely Matthew, the tax collector who became a follower of Jesus. The book of Matthew gives readers a perspective on the life of Jesus and confirms Him as the Messiah.

OT-NT CONNECTION

The Pentateuch is the first five books of the Bible. These books — Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy — contain the Law that God gave to the Israelites. The Law gave us the standard of holiness that God required of His people. God demanded perfection from them but also provided a way to restore His relationship with them through sacrifices and offerings when that standard was not met.

HOW DO I NOT WANT TO BE PERFECT LIKE EVERYONE ON SOCIAL MEDIA?

It is easy to believe that what you see on social media is something you need to live up to. The truth is, what you see isn't reality. The people who look perfect are just as flawed as you. If you are feeling pressured to be perfect, take a break! Spend time with friends, read your Bible or listen to worship music. Remember who God says you are and who He wants you to be; that is the real reality!

READ



Read Matthew 5:14-16. Why are we supposed to shine the light of God in us? What is the difference between being perfect and shining God's light? How should people respond when they see the good works that we do?

DOESN'T FOLLOWING GOD'S LAWS IN THE BIBLE MAKE ME PERFECT?

If you never sinned you would be perfect; but since everyone sins, no one can keep God's law perfectly. A better question is, "Is your goal to do all the right things or to become more like Jesus?" We can never be perfect on our own. Following God's law is important; but spending time with God, learning about Him and living how He wants us to live helps us to become more like Jesus.

JOURNAL



Jesus warns us to not be hypocrites. Read Matthew 23:27-28. How have you tried to look perfect and righteous in front of others? Write a prayer asking God to help you not be fake in what you do and say.

★ THRU-THE-WEEK SHEET

WEEK OF OCTOBER 22, 2023

♥ MEMORIZE

"BEWARE OF PRACTICING YOUR RIGHTEOUSNESS BEFORE OTHER PEOPLE IN ORDER TO BE SEEN BY THEM, FOR THEN YOU WILL HAVE NO REWARD FROM YOUR FATHER WHO IS IN HEAVEN."

(MATTHEW 6:1)

Q: WHAT CAN I DO TO BE PERFECT?

A: NOTHING.

SECRET SERVICE

Talk with the members of your family about ways they can serve one another. God wants us to serve one another, but not do nice things just to be noticed or to look perfect. Challenge everyone to pick something they can do for someone else. The only catch is it has to stay a secret!

SHARE

Tell your child how God has helped you understand that there is nothing you can do to make yourself perfect.

WATCH



Help your child learn their verse by watching this week's Memory Melody video!

PRAY

DEAR GOD, WE KNOW WE ARE NOT PERFECT BECAUSE WE SIN. WE KNOW THERE IS NOTHING WE CAN DO TO MAKE OURSELVES PERFECT. THANK YOU FOR SENDING YOUR SON, JESUS, TO DIE ON THE CROSS FOR OUR SIN. AMEN.

FIND

This week's verse is in the book of Matthew. Help your child find the book of Matthew. Is this book in the Old or New Testament? How many chapters are there?

ONE DROP

Fill a clear jar or glass with water. Let your child put a drop of food coloring into the jar. What happens to the water? One drop colors the water forever. The water will never be perfectly clear on its own. When we sin, even once, we are changed by that sin forever. We can never be perfectly cleansed from our sin on our own. But when we trust Jesus as our Savior, we are forgiven and Jesus makes us clean again.

PAPER AIRPLANES

Make paper airplanes and have a contest to see which airplane flies the farthest and the best. Do the airplanes fly perfectly every time? Can the airplane fix itself when it gets crumpled? Just like paper airplanes can't make themselves perfect again after being damaged, we can't make ourselves perfect after we are damaged by sin.

SING



Listen to this playlist throughout the series as you learn to treasure God above all else.

SCAN HERE TO LISTEN WHEREVER YOU ARE!



COLORING PAGE

WEEK OF OCTOBER 22, 2023

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RIGHTEOUSNESS BEFORE OTHER PEOPLE
IN ORDER TO BE SEEN BY THEM, FOR
THEN YOU WILL HAVE NO REWARD FROM
YOUR FATHER WHO IS IN HEAVEN."*

(MATTHEW 6:1)



**WHAT CAN I DO
TO BE PERFECT?
NOTHING.**

NAME: _____