CHASING PERFECT.

J. Huffman : MANUP.org : Lesson 4 of 5

"We spend most of our life chasing Perfect."

Ecclesiastes 7

²⁰ "Not a single person on earth is always good and never sins."

²³ I have always tried my best to let wisdom guide my thoughts and actions. I said to myself, *"I am determined to be wise."* But it didn't work.

²⁴ Wisdom is always distant and difficult to find.
²⁵ I searched everywhere, determined to find wisdom and to understand the reason for things.

²⁷ This is my conclusion, says the Teacher.

I discovered this after looking at the matter from every possible angle. ²⁸ Though I have searched repeatedly, I still haven't found what I was looking for.

Only one out of a thousand men is virtuous, but not one woman!

29 But I did find this:

God created people to be virtuous, but they have each turned to follow their own downward path.

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Problem.

Your BEST isn't Good ENOUGH.

FITB : "I'll never be good enough for _____."

.....

Q: What part of your life do you wish were Perfect?

The Perfect Problem.

• God is PERFECT.

Psalm 92

¹⁵ The LORD is upright; there is *no wickedness* in him.

Leviticus 11

44 "I am the LORD your God. You must be holy because I am holy."

• But we're NOT.

Genesis 3

10 "I heard you walking in the garden, so I hid.I was afraid because I was naked."

Psalm 14

¹ The LORD looks down from heaven on the entire human race; he looks to see if anyone is truly wise, if anyone seeks God. But **no**. *"All have turned away, all have become corrupt. No one does good, not a single one!"*

Isaiah 53

- ² "We turned our backs on him and looked the other way.
- ⁶ We have left God's path to follow our own way."

"The problem with our OWN way is that it's headed the WRONG way."

Romans 3

²³ "For everyone has sinned. We all fall short of God's glorious standard.
^{6:23} The wages of sin is death."

Q: What do we DO now?

"We usually try to do MORE, do BETTER, or be the BEST... but it's never ENOUGH."

The Perfect Solution.

• **REPENT** of your Sins.

Mark 1

¹⁵ Jesus said, "The time promised by God has come at last! The Kingdom of God is near! *Repent* of your sins and *believe* the Good News!"

Repent = "turn FROM and turn TO"

Romans 6

²³ For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

• RECEIVE the Gift of Jesus.

Romans 5

⁶ When we were utterly helpless, Christ came at just the right time and died for us sinners. ¹⁷ For the sin of this one man, Adam, caused death to rule over many. But even greater is God's wonderful grace and his gift of righteousness, for **all who receive** it will live in triumph over sin and death through this one man - **Jesus Christ**.

"Perfect isn't something you ACHIEVE it's a gift you RECEIVE."

John 14

⁶ Jesus said, *"I am the WAY, the TRUTH, and the LIFE.* No one can come to the Father except through **ME**."

Q: Are you ready to receive the gift of JESUS?

Psalm 18:30 - "God's way is perfect. All the LORD's promises prove true . . . *He makes my way perfect*."