

IMPERFECT



# We all know we are imperfect.

We all have at least a dim awareness that in some way we are not what we should be.

We all have some secrets that we don't share with others because they show what we are really like, instead of what we want to be like.

We have and they have standards that we don't measure up to.



...the requirements of the Law are written on their hearts, their consciences also bearing witness, and their thoughts now accusing, now even defending them. (The Bible - Romans 2:15)

# Where did this awareness come from?



It comes from a faint memory that humans were originally perfect.  
Unfortunately, our first parents mucked it up for us and ever since we  
have been imperfect. All our actions are compromised and corrupt.  
We humans, all of us, do not make the perfect grade.

God saw all that he had  
made and it was very good.  
(The Bible - Genesis 1:31)

[A]ll have sinned and fall  
short of the glory of God.  
(The Bible - Romans 3:23)

# But God hasn't thrown us away.

He sent Jesus into the world to deal with the situation.  
Jesus says, "I love you, but you've got some big issues, big flaws, huge imperfections, huge sin. We're going to have to deal with those."



But God demonstrates his  
own love for us in this:  
While we were still sinners,  
Christ died for us.  
(The Bible - Romans 5:8)

# Jesus leads us to...

...a wooden cross where he takes our corruption and imperfection:

from **little lies** to **acts of murder**; from **lust filled thoughts** to **adultery**;  
from **the guilt of sexual abuse** to **the shame of being sexually abused**;  
all our **dirty**ness, all our **uncleanness**, all **alcoholism**, all **drug-taking**,  
all **self-righteousness** and **pride** and **arrogance** and **doubt** and **fear**;  
he takes it all and he's killed as if it was all his, as if he deserved death  
instead of us.



God made him who had no sin to be sin for us so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.  
(The Bible - 2 Corinthians 5:21)

And then Jesus was buried,

and three days later

he was raised to life,

and he comes to us and says, “Follow me.”



For what I received I passed onto you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures and that he appeared to Peter, and then to the Twelve. (The Bible - 1 Corinthians 15:3-5)

# Have you experienced this?

Have you seen that when Jesus died on the cross, he took *your* imperfections and corruptions on himself and died for them so *you* don't have to?

If you see that, then something else happened.



...everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.  
(The Bible - Acts 10:43b)

When he took your imperfections and corruptions,  
**Jesus gave you his**  
**incorruptible perfection**  
and that changes you on the inside.



Therefore, if anyone is in  
Christ, he is a new creation;  
the old has gone, the new  
has come.  
(The Bible -  
2 Corinthians 5:17)



# You become different.

You start to desire different things.

You, gradually or not, begin to think in different ways.

You start a journey toward recreated perfection.

You begin to see Jesus as most important and your heart follows him  
and his desires.



[Jesus] gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.

(The Bible - Titus 2:14)

# To experience this...

...speak to God.

Be honest about your imperfections and corruptions.

Thank him that Jesus died and rose to life.

Thank him that Jesus takes your imperfections and gives you his  
perfection.

Say you will follow him.



...if you confess with your  
mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and  
believe in your heart that  
God raised him from the  
dead, you will be saved.  
(The Bible - Romans 10:9)

# Did you do it?

Or maybe you just have questions.

Contact a Church, talk to a Christian and read a Bible.

...by one sacrifice he has made perfect forever those who are being made holy.  
(The Bible - Hebrews 10:14)

