



People Looking for Purpose

We often assume purpose requires perfection, while Jesus points to a kind of completeness that comes through growth, not flawlessness.

Discussion Questions:

1. Growing up, what messages did you receive—spoken or unspoken—about needing to be “good enough” or trying to be “perfect”?
2. Read **Matthew 5:43–48** aloud.

You have heard that it was said, ‘Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that? And if you greet only your own people, what are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that? Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

How does understanding “perfect” as *complete* or *mature* change how you view your own growth?

3. How would you describe the tone of your inner voice when you think about any of these three areas: past failures, regrets, or painful experiences you didn’t choose?
4. In what ways have you assumed that growth only comes from getting things right, rather than from walking through hard or unfair seasons?
5. What part of your past—your experiences, mistakes, or disappointments—might God be inviting you to see as something he wants to use rather than erase?
6. What’s one way you could intentionally steward your past instead of wishing it were different?