

SESSION 4

[Chasing Perfect.]

What happens when your best isn't good enough?

Solomon learned everything, tried everything, and looked everywhere but "*Still didn't find what he was looking for.*"
At the end of his pleasure quest, Solomon was sure of one thing . . . ***Nobody's Perfect.***

His best wasn't good enough.
He *knew better* but didn't *do better*.

Solomon trusted in his own way . . .

his own money, his own power, his own wisdom.
But nothing worked - everything was meaningless.

He had *money* but didn't have *meaning*.
He had *pleasure* but didn't have *peace*.
He had *wisdom* but didn't have *clarity*.
He found everything and he called it "***NOTHING.***"

But at the end of chasing "*His Own Way*" . . .
Solomon found another way to live - God's Way.

In his quest for ***The Perfect Life*** . . .
Solomon was awaiting ***The Perfect Messiah.***

Jesus would be the ONLY WAY to Perfect.

CHASING PERFECT.

J. Huffman : ThingsWeChase.com : 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.***

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.***”