

Nobody's Perfect

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Mess is what brings us together.

"Do not judge, or you too will be judged. ² For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you. ³ Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eye? ⁴ How can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' when all the time there is a plank in your own eye? ⁵ You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye." Matthew 7:1-5

- **Become a student instead of a critic.**
- **Become a pray-er instead of a complain-er.**

The mess is what brought God near.

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16

Your mess has potential to bring God near to you.

For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. John 3:17

Jesus invited messy people to follow him while they were still messy.

When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." John 8:12

What's more important than the mess is a relationship.

"Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. ²⁵ The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. ²⁶ But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. Matthew 7:24-26

Connect

- What's the biggest mess you've made?

Word and Reflection

Life is messy. We've all made messes in our lives. Nobody's Perfect. This is something we all have in common. And it's actually mess that brings us together. It's also mess that brought God near. Most of us assume God rejects us because of our messes. But the truth is, the mess that brings us together is the mess that brought God near.

Matthew 7:1-5, 24-26; John 3:16-17; John 8:12; Matthew 7:24-27

- Which part of the message made an impact, caught your attention or challenged you?
- Read Matthew 7:1-5. Why is it sometimes easier to see the mess in other people's lives than it is to see the mess in our own life? Talk about a time when you were in a messy place and weren't sure of the way out. What happened?
- Read John 3:16-17 and John 8:12. What is the mess we all have in common? How has Jesus provided the way out of our mess? Most often, we just want God to "fix" our mess. But more important than just fixing the mess, God wants a relationship with you. How does knowing that change how you view Him and interact with Him when you're in a mess?
- Read Matthew 7:24-26. What would it look like for you to hear Jesus' words and put them into practice in your own life? How do you think that might help you avoid future messes?
- Think about a mess in your life right now. What can you do this week to begin to surrender and ask God to meet you in your mess? What would it look like for you to follow Jesus out of your mess? How can this group support you?

Action

- Your current mess may feel overwhelming. But you don't have to be stuck. Jesus invites you to follow Him out of your mess. You only need to surrender. When you surrender, you can experience God's grace.

Prayer

- Pray for God to meet you in your mess, surrender it to God and experience His grace.
- Pray for your group and for those whom you're reaching out to.