

RUSSELL SANDERS
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BE PERFECT

Jesus commanded us in Matthew 5:48 to be perfect. What did he mean by that? And what did he NOT mean by it? He did not mean “sinless perfection,” knowing we could not do that.

What Matthew 5:48 says is, ***“Be ye therefore perfect, even [like] as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.”*** The Amplified version says that “perfect” means ***“[growing into spiritual maturity both in mind and character, actively integrating godly values into your daily life].”***

This is an ongoing process that we walk in daily. It is a learning and growing process that never ends while on earth.

So, this “perfection” is a process, not a destination. We must be diligent in following the process until we reach our eternal destination. It is a daily pursuit.

If at some point this pursuit of perfection [spiritual maturity] seems long or seems rough or hard, just remember Philippians 4:13 which says, [NKJV] ***“I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.”*** Jesus strengthens us during our times of weakness.

1 Corinthians 10:13 tells us that He will not allow more trouble or trials to come upon us than what we can bear, because He will make a way for us to handle it.

When our heart is right, we will delight ourselves in the LORD [Psalm 37:4]. He rewards those who delight in Him [Isaiah 58:14]. It is our delight to walk in maturity [perfection] before our heavenly Father.