

“Perfecting Believers”

(A Five-Part Teaching Series Challenging Believers to Be Complete in Every Way)

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Perfecting Believers Ministry

◆ DISCIPLESHIP ◆

(Perfecting Believers for Service to Christ,
to One Another, and to the Global Community)

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“Preaching the Good News and Perfecting Believers IS the Business of the Church.”

Week One – Topic: Finding the One Thing You Lack

Personal Quote: “But, I’m Only Missing ONE thing.”

I. THE SCRIPTURES

Key Scripture: Mark 10: 21 (KJV) - Then Jesus beholding him loved him, and said unto him, **One thing thou lackest**: go thy way, sell whatsoever thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, take up the cross, and follow me.

Other Scriptures:

James 1:4 (New International Version, NIV) Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be **mature and complete, not lacking anything**.

1 Thessalonians 3:10 (KJV)

Night and day praying exceedingly that we might see your face, and might **perfect** (*katartizō* – thoroughly equip) **that which is lacking** in your faith.

2 Timothy 3:17 (NKJV)

That the man of God may be **complete (KJV – perfect)**, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

The Greek word for “thoroughly equipped” is *exartizō*. It means *to complete, finish, to be thoroughly prepared or thoroughly furnished or equipped. To be furnished or provided with everything one needs.*

Ephesians 4:15 (NIV) Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will **in all things grow up** into him who is the Head, that is, Christ.

II. THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH

The Mission of the Church of Jesus Christ is often described as Three-fold Divine Task:

To: E _____

To: E _____

To: E _____

We will condense this Three-Fold Task in this series to a Two-Fold Task or Purpose:

To: P _____ the _____ .

To: P _____ .

Thus, if you are lacking in ANYTHING, in ANY area of life it is the Task of the Church, through the Power of the Holy Spirit to help perfect you in that area (or for most of us, in those MANY areas). The Thessalonians passage (3:10) reminds us of this.

Paul beautifully describes the work of the Church in Ephesians 4:7-16.

Ephesians 4:12 (KJV)

For the **perfecting** of the saints, for the **work** of the ministry, for the **edifying** of the body of Christ:
KJV – For the perfecting of the saints (the goal of discipleship)

KJV – For the work of the ministry (equip for service) Reason #1 for Perfecting the Believer

KJV – For the edifying of the body of Christ (edify – build up, mature) Reason #2 for Perfecting the Believer. This maturity is an “*all of life for all your life*” maturity, not just a “spiritual” maturity.

III. BEING IN LACK CAN BE HAZARDNESS TO YOUR HEALTH

People who lack or are in need do some crazy things.

What are some of the things people do when they lack something they **really** feel they need?

Mark Chapter 10 – The Story

This man came to the _____ man.

This man asked the _____ question.

And he received the _____ answer.

But, he couldn't handle the _____.

More on the Story

This man seems to have had it made. He says he kept all that Jesus had told him from his youth.

But, he lacked one thing. But don't be too hard on this man. Most of us lack MORE THAN one thing!

How to get the MAIN THING that that is lacking in your life:

Remove, Improve, Groove

Remove, means to _____.

Improve, means to _____.

Get into a Groove, means to _____.

As a Christian Life Coach and Discippler I like to give **Personal Assignments**. Growing people and people who are perfecting any lack in their lives, work on the assignments which means you must work on _____.

❖ You must perfect yourself for the _____ use.

2 Timothy 2:21 (NIV): If a man cleanses himself from the latter, he will be an instrument for noble purposes, made holy, useful to the **Master** and prepared to do any good work.

❖ You must perfect yourself to _____.

Galatians 6:10 (NIV): Therefore, as we have **opportunity**, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.

Note: Most people like to deal with _____ people!

❖ And, you must perfect yourself to _____.

1 Timothy 5:22 (NIV): Keep yourself pure.

1 Timothy 4:14-16 (NIV)

¹⁴**Do not neglect your gift**, which was given you through a prophetic message when the body of elders laid their hands on you. ¹⁵Be diligent in these matters; **give yourself wholly to them**, so that everyone may see **your progress**. ¹⁶Watch your life and doctrine closely. Persevere in them, because if you do, you will **save both yourself and your hearers**.

Other reasons you must perfect yourself.

1.

2.

3.

Your “Perfecting My Life” Assignment:

What will you Remove, Improve, Groove in your life in the next seven days **STARTING TOMORROW** or even **TONIGHT**?

Details:

When **EXACTLY** will you start?

Who will hold you accountable to your aim?

Get a friend, a coach, someone in your small group, someone in your class or prayer group to assist you in perfecting that which is lacking in your life.