

NOT PERFECT, BUT LOVED

12•16•2025

PSALM 139:14

I often struggle with a deep desire to make sure my work and actions are perfect. It's not driven by a need for praise or acceptance, but by a fear of letting others down. When I pause and ask myself what might be keeping me from drawing closer to God, the need for perfection stands out.

But then I think about Jesus and His disciples. They weren't perfect. Even with Jesus physically present, they made mistakes. They doubted, misunderstood, and failed at times. Yet Jesus didn't reject them—he loved them, taught them, and continued to walk with them.

The people Jesus pursued weren't the polished or the powerful. They were the outcasts, the overlooked, the broken. And he saw them as worthy. He loved them deeply.

This reminds me that God isn't asking for perfection—he's asking for trust. He's not measuring my worth by flawless performance, but by my willingness to follow him, even in weakness. My striving for perfection can become a barrier, a way of trying to control outcomes instead of surrendering them to God.

Scripture says I am fearfully and wonderfully made—not perfectly made. God never said he created me to do perfect things. He said I am wonderful in his eyes. God took time to knit me together with care and intention which alone speaks of my worth. He calls me to do my best, yes—but more than that, he calls me to rely on him, to trust the gifts he's given me, and to let go of the fear of not being perfect.

My identity isn't found in how well I perform. It's found in being a child of God—one He created with purpose and love.

YOU ARE INVITED TO SPEND

Christmas

AT CEDAR SPRINGS

Looking for a Christmas Eve service that
the entire family can attend?

Our Family Christmas Eve service starts
at 4PM and is a special child-friendly
experience. We hope to see you there!

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24

FAMILY SERVICE | 4PM

CANDLELIGHT SERVICE | 7 + 11PM

PRAYER

Lord, thank you for creating me exactly as you have. I pray to surrender my heart to you and trust that as I seek you, you will guide me and my actions. Help me to remember that my worth is found in you—not in my work or accomplishments—so that I may draw closer to you. Thank you for your loving and intentional design in creating me.



BY LISA TARANTINO
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