

your
JOURNEY
with Jesus

May 8 (Mother's Day)

There's no way we can keep up to the image of perfection.

It goes without saying that our world tries to lure us into thinking that perfection is attainable. Every advertisement and movie puts in front of us a vision of a human being which we are invited to aspire to become. Whether the ideal is that of a perfect mom, perfect dad, perfect friend, perfect athlete or perfect Christian it's all a sham. Why? Because there are no perfect people. There are no perfect moms. There are no perfect dads, or friends, or Jesus-followers.

THINK IT OVER

What image of perfection have you been tricked into pursuing in your life? Moreover, what have been the consequences of that ambition you've been instilled with?

¹⁸ The disciples of John reported all these things to him. So John summoned two of his disciples ¹⁹ and sent them to the Lord to ask, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" ²⁰ When the men had come to him, they said, "John the Baptist has sent us to you to ask, 'Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?'" ²¹ Jesus had just then cured many people of diseases, plagues, and evil spirits, and had given sight to many who were blind. ²² And he answered them, "Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, the poor have good news brought to them. ²³ And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me." Luke 7:18-23

1) Jesus' actions speak for themselves. Look at what Jesus has done.

THINK IT OVER

What have you seen Jesus do in your life or the lives of others you know?

²⁴When John's messengers had gone, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? ²⁵What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who put on fine clothing and live in luxury are in royal palaces. ²⁶What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ²⁷This is the one about whom it is written, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.' ²⁸I tell you, among those born of women no one is greater than John; yet the least in the kingdom of God is greater than he." Luke 7:24-28

2) Jesus raises us to a greatness that's greater than anyone has ever known without Jesus.

THINK IT OVER

Who is the greatest person you've ever known? What does it mean to hear that in heaven, because of Jesus, you'll know greatness far greater than that?

²⁹ (And all the people who heard this, including the tax collectors, acknowledged the justice of God, because they had been baptized with John's baptism. ³⁰ But by refusing to be baptized by him, the Pharisees and the lawyers rejected God's purpose for themselves.) ³¹ "To what then will I compare the people of this generation, and what are they like? ³² They are like children sitting in the marketplace and calling to one another, 'We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not weep.' ³³ For John the Baptist has come eating no bread and drinking no wine, and you say, 'He has a demon'; ³⁴ the Son of Man has come eating and drinking, and you say, 'Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' ³⁵ Nevertheless, wisdom is vindicated by all her children." Luke 7:29-35

3) Jesus is who Jesus is...regardless of who you want him to be. It's all he ever wants you to be.

THINK IT OVER

What do you think your life would look like if you had truly 'been yourself' and not caved to other's illusions of who you should be?