

Setting Goals to be Perfect in 2026

Text: Matthew 5:48 (NASB)

Therefore you shall be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

This famous instruction is found in the Gospel of Matthew 5:48, serving as the conclusion to a section of Jesus's Sermon on the Mount.

Meaning and Translation:

The Greek word used for "perfect" is teleios, which has a nuanced meaning in this context.

Completeness and Maturity:

Rather than meaning "flawless" or "sinless" in a modern sense, it denotes being whole, complete, fully developed, or having reached a designed end or goal.

Imitating Divine Character:

It is a call for believers to reflect the character of God, specifically His indiscriminate love and mercy. God expects his children to grow up to be mature. When we rightly divide bible, God expects children to grow into spiritual maturity, moving from spiritual infancy to fully developed disciples who know His truth, can discern right from wrong, and reflect Christ's character, becoming self-sufficient in faith and building up the community, not remaining tossed about by every new teaching. This growth involves deep knowledge of God's Word, humility, trust, and serving others, transforming believers to be more like Jesus.

Key Aspects of Spiritual Maturity

1) Knowledge & Understanding:

- a. Moving beyond basic teachings to a deep knowledge of Christ and His Word
- b. *Hebrews 5:12-14 (KJV)* ¹² For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat. ¹³ For every one that useth milk is unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe. ¹⁴ But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.

2) Stability:

- a. Becoming firm in faith, not easily swayed by new or false doctrines
- b. *Ephesians 4:14 (KJV)* Wherefore he saith, Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light.

3) Christlikeness:

- a. Growing to reflect Christ's character, living with humility, truth, and love
- b. *Ephesians 4:13, 15 (KJV)* ¹³ Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: ¹⁵ But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:

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4) Service:

- a. Using spiritual gifts to build up the church (body of Christ) and serve others
- b. *Ephesians 4:12 (KJV)* For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

5) Dependence & Trust:

- a. Becoming like a child in dependence on God, but mature in understanding and action, not naive.

How Growth Happens

1) Desiring God's Word:

- a. Like newborns craving milk, mature believers hunger for the sincere milk of the Word
- b. *I Peter 2:2 (KJV)* As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:

2) Discipline & Training:

- a. It's a gradual, lifelong process involving connection with God, obedience, and humility, not automatic.
- b. God gives spiritual leaders and gifts to equip believers for ministry and maturity
- c. *Ephesians 4:11-12 (KJV)* ¹¹ And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; ¹² For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

Suggested Goals for 2026

1. MAKE UP YOUR MIND TO BE MATURE IN 2026
2. Attend every worship service, and bible class in 2026. (Hebrews 10:25-28)
3. Read the word of GOD every day.
4. Fervent prayer every day
5. Evangelize your world, people you come in contact with, tell the gospel.
6. Increase your offering by 1% - 5% do you love money more than GOD?
7. Invite 10 people to hear the preaching of truth.
8. Set up a bible class for your preacher.
9. STOP PROCRASTINATING Make up your mind to be perfect in 2026
10. Bring the Holy Spirit with you to worship and bible classes (fruit of the spirit).
11. Get the memory verse every week.