



## His Perfection, Our Reflection

He was born.  
He grew.  
He chose God.  
He knew temptation.  
He made godly friends.  
He prayed.  
He forgave.  
He taught God's Word.  
He obeyed God's Word.  
He was humble.  
He gave unselfishly.  
He sought God's will.  
He offered hope to everyone.  
He was our perfect example; He is Jesus.

As this quarter's editing came to a close, I looked back over the lessons. I sifted them down until I could find the one nugget from each that spoke to me on a purely human level. My sifter consisted of questions like:

- Who was Jesus—this God in flesh who walked among us, this man who sat and talked with all kinds of “us-es”?
- What do these stories, some told about Jesus and some told by Jesus, say about Him?
- What do these glimpses into Jesus' life show me about Him? What do they show me about me?
- What did I learn about the life of Jesus and how can I put what I learned into practice in my own life?

Listed above, I led with the answers. They are in order of this quarter's lessons, including the review, which pretty much sums it all up. Since I believe Jesus is my example, and since I want to be like Him in every way, I wondered what it would look like if I made these statements personal and replaced the “He” with “I.”

I was born.  
I grew.  
I chose God.  
I know temptation.  
I make godly friends.  
I pray.  
I forgive.  
I teach God's Word.  
I obey God's Word.  
I am humble.  
I give unselfishly.  
I seek God's will.  
I offer hope to everyone.  
I reflect my perfect example; I reflect Jesus.

Did those statements affect you like they did me? Did they cause you to consider the extent to which each of them is true? For Jesus, those statements are absolute and unwavering, but for me, do they come with conditions or change depending on situations?

I imagined one of those numbered ranking assessments, something like 1=never, 2=rarely, 3= occasionally, 4=often, 5=always, out to the side of each statement. Jesus would have received perfect rankings on every account, but for me—well, let's just say that Philippians 3:12–21 comes to mind (and the parts about striving for the mark and having not yet attained).

This quarter, refer back to both sets of statements. As you teach about Jesus' life, study your own. Help toddlers to not only learn about the life of Christ, but to also see it reflected in you. If you sift down biblical truths into toddler-sized nuggets, soon enough, they will be able to apply those truths to their lives and situations.

Jesus was perfect; we are not, but we are not striving for perfection. We are striving to become a reflection of His perfection. Through Jesus' example, His Word, and with the help of His Spirit, we can.