

Already/Not yet

One of our values is Progress Over Perfection. This means that life is a work in process. We're always learning and growing—which means that we are always making mistakes and, hopefully, learning from them. Perfection is a pipe dream...more than that, it is a trap we don't want you to get stuck in!

God is not in a hurry—perhaps you have noticed this? They are playing the long game because they can see farther than we can and know more than we know and they understand everything. But they let us join their “game of life” and teach us how to “play” as we go along with them and continue to learn and grow.

In our Journey To The Core posts, you will notice that this value is often communicated by the phrase “already but not yet” or “already/not yet”. There are things that have already begun, but they are not yet finished. They're already real, but not yet visible.

Kind of like a baby growing inside its mother—it's there growing...but it's many months before you can see evidence of it...and many more months before it's born and visible to the world! It's already alive, but not yet born.

The Good News of our Adoption by Father, because of the finished work of Jesus, is already real—but it is not yet fully known and acknowledged. Helping people recognize and accept this reality is what it means to share the Gospel—a word that means “good news”.

The Spirit has been sent to live inside of those who live inside Jesus. This is already true—but it is not yet fully realized. We may already know Jesus—but we do not yet fully understand his impact.

Jesus said that we should pray and ask Father for his kingdom to come and his will to be done on earth as it is in heaven. The kingdom has already come with Jesus, and Father's will is being done already—but it is not yet done as it is in heaven. Not until Jesus returns and makes all things new; bringing with him the dead who have been waiting for new, imperishable bodies like his own; healing and restoring our weary planet; repairing all things that were broken—especially relationships; transforming the bodies of those still alive and waiting for his return; and finally, the New Jerusalem, the City of God, coming down from the New Heaven to the New Earth—and Father and Son and Spirit finally dwelling with their Creation.

Yeah, that's a lot of already-but-not-yet reality to ponder.

Jesus finished his mission and left us, with the presence and guidance and power of the Spirit, to continue our education. To learn to live fully in the life and love of Jesus with Father in the Spirit—our Core of Four homestead. As we learn to live loved, we will be able to return that love...and then share it with others. Yes, we already live this, but we do not yet live it to the fullest. It takes time—and God is not in a hurry.