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Practice makes perfect?

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I have always been of the opinion that practice does not make perfect. Practice does, though, make permanent. If every iteration of our practice is simply a repeat of the same mistakes we made previously, we can never hope to see improvement let alone attain perfection. All we can ever expect is consistency. We will consistently be weak in the same areas. Consistency, when wrong, could just as accurately be described as a rut. I once heard a rut described as a grave with no ends. We are stuck in it, going the same direction until we die in it. Consistency is certainly important. Each time, time after time, removing the mistakes and flaws, until we can consistently repeat perfection.

Let's face the naked truth though. We are human and perfection is elusive, extremely elusive. So, it is that only the diligent seekers rise above the norm. I see this as the reason we have heroes. We among the masses understand how rare are such character traits of diligence and drive, and also the willingness to self-examine and autocorrect required to even approach perfection. So, we cannot help but admire those who possess it.

One thing I have done regularly since I have had the technical help to accomplish such, is listen to what I say and how I say it. It is amazing to me how many times in my classes or lessons, I have questions about how well a point was made; whether it was clear and concise, or whether it simply could have been done better. I want to hear my bad habits. I can't fix what I can't see or hear. We all have habits we don't realize we have. Speakers have nervous motions, filler words and phrases we repeat to the annoyance or distraction of those we desire to influence. Olympic and professional athletes scrutinize their performances to find and eliminate wasted motions or flaws in form.

When humans build machines, the process begins with a concept in someone's mind, and from there generally to a conceptual drawing, and then to a working model or prototype. The purpose in a prototype is mainly to see if it works, to test interdependent systems, and work out the bugs.

What would be the point in building a prototype, testing it in every way imaginable, and then building another with no changes to systems that were obviously substandard or failed outright?

Life, as I see it, is indeed a prototype. It is also a performance with every day we live being a rehearsal for the final curtain. So, why not then use every day as an opportunity to practice for permanent improvement? We can look at each day's offering and see it the way GOD and those around us see it in the light of our Lord's example, remove the flaws and try again.