

Order flexes to the needs of our families. Order can handle the temporary upset of spring cleaning, of rearranging all the furniture in the house, of a week off of school.

What's the order of your life? Do you have a normal routine—a time to get up, a time to eat, a time to sleep? Do you have the security of a routine—for school days, for weekends, for summer vacation?

I don't really want a perfect life—I need some room to make messes, some freedom to be flexible. I don't want to get things just perfectly so and then be stuck with it from here to eternity. I want the ability to rearrange—to reorder—as life changes and different seasons come and go.

“As for God, his way is perfect; the word of the Lord is flawless. He is a shield for all who take refuge in him. For who is God besides the Lord? And who is the Rock except our God?” (2 Samuel 22:31-32)

P: Perfection is NOT the goal

“Where perfection is rigid, order is flexible.”

—from “A Simple Home,” *Living Simply*, page 56

Let’s be honest. My life is not perfect. Your life is not perfect. Perfection is not what living simply is about.

When we aim for perfection, we’ll end up disappointed, frustrated, and chances are good we’ll just give up altogether. Only God is perfect—we just aren’t.

But we can strive for *order*. “A place for everything and everything in its place.” Order offers a place for things, a routine of life, a system to manage everything. Order provides the boundaries that give us freedom to live and work.