

The Importance Of The Perfect Not Being Allowed To Be The Enemy of The Good

Post by "Cassius" of May 18, 2023 at 11:23 AM

Looks to me too like this section of the following article is interesting, however I am not comfortable with the "better" part in the title or the "modest satisfaction." near the end.

Sounds to me this is parallel to where Diogenes Laertius says Epicurus valued *both* pleasures of rest and of action, and I would think the better approach is just to be aware of the differences and how the choice between one vs the other is contextual and requires prudence. Slow mental pleasures might not be what you want when you're resting on a railroad track and a train is approaching, while at other times the roller coaster ride really isn't a good idea when the ride isn't being well maintained and the chance of accident is high. And as to the "modest satisfaction" it's better just to realize that pleasure comes in many packages both mental and physical.

But thinking about these three bullet points makes sense.

Satisfaction is better than exhilaration.

We've been conditioned to think that the right combination of actions will achieve a flash of exhilaration. When we happen upon the *perfect* marketing strategy, we expect a rush of joy. When we discover the best business for us to start, we're flooded with an electric sensation of excitement.

This thrill-seeking mentality is yet another symptom of the good killing the perfect. It's important to understand that the perfect-being-the-enemy-of-the-good can skew aspects of our daily lives, like those listed above. But the concept can impose even more damage, skewing our expectations even as it cripples our actions. So, try the following moves:

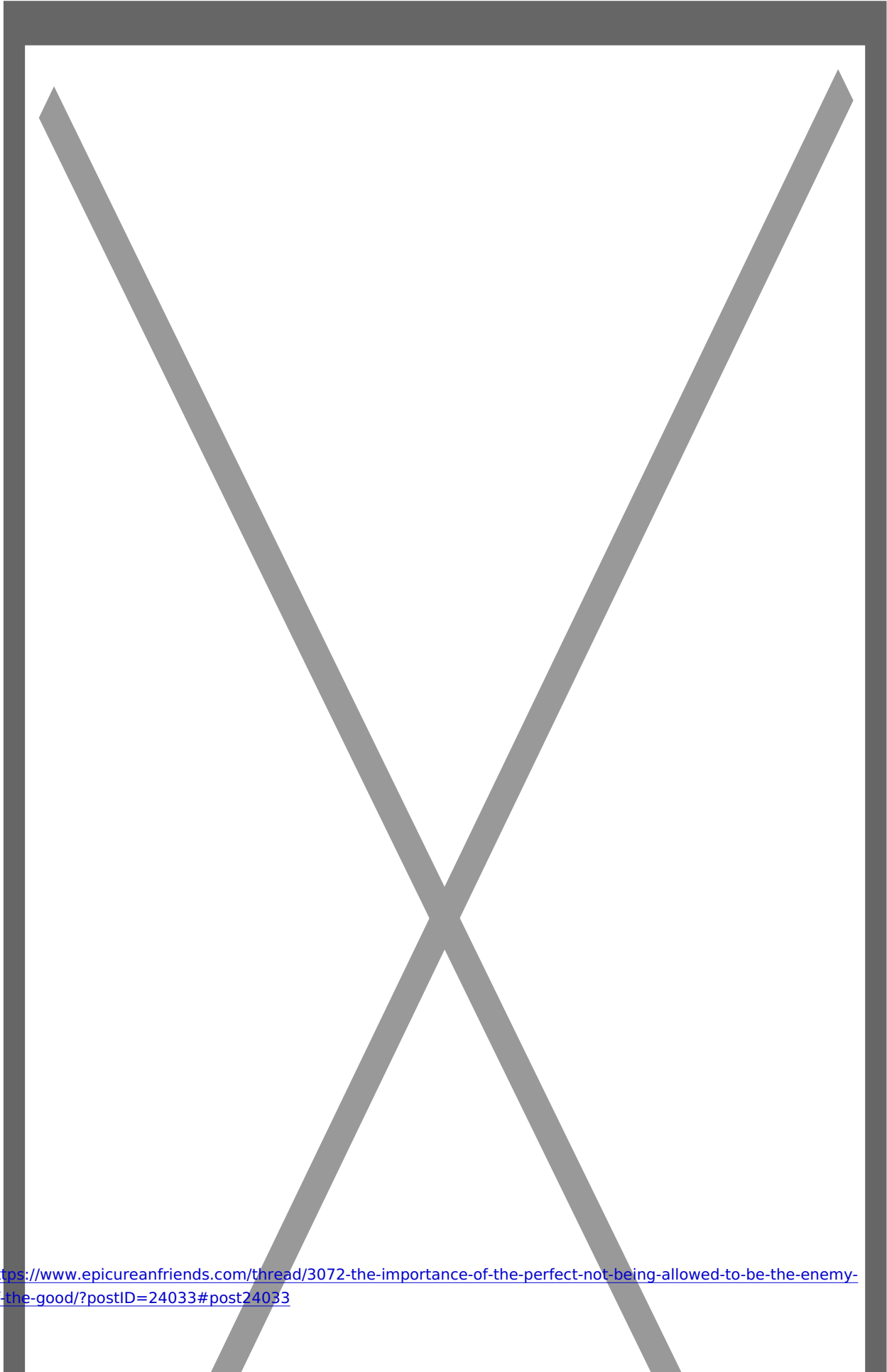
- **Rather than expecting *aha* moments**, prepare yourself for gradual improvement.
- **Rather than risking sudden leaps in ability, skill, or progress**, expect marginal improvement over periods of time.
- **Rather than waiting for a rush of exhilaration**, expect modest satisfaction over time.

It's good to condition ourselves for success. We can do this by preparing for it, visioning it, pursuing it, seeking it and wanting it. But we can't expect our success to explode like the finale in a Fourth of July fireworks display.

Instead, success is more likely to be gradual. It may feel good, but it won't necessarily feel perfect. Success arrives as a sense of satisfaction, not a sudden thrill.

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[Your Secret Mental Weapon: 'Don't Let the Perfect Be the Enemy of the Good' | Entrepreneur](#)

Now, get busy accepting good enough as a great place to start.

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