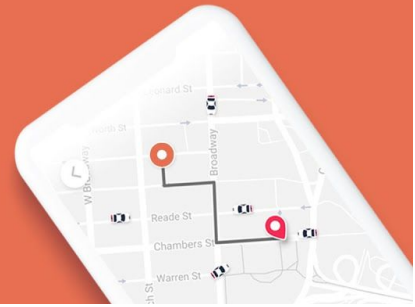


# the road to **IMPERFECTION**



## **Part One: Exchanging Your Idols For Your Identity // Jeff Brodie //** **October 11, 2020**

What does it mean to follow Jesus? Is it just about obeying rules and being a good person? Is it about becoming the best version of yourself? Is the Christian life only about heaven and hell, or is there more to it than that? What is the whole point of life on earth for those who choose Jesus? We'll be sharing God's ultimate goal for your life and what the road to finding it looks like.

**Scripture:** [Philippians 1:6 NLT](#); [2 Corinthians 3:18 NLT](#); [Philippians 2:12 NLT](#);  
[Exodus 20:3-5a NLT](#),

**Bottom Line:** The void you try to fill with a what can only be filled by a Who.

### **Getting Started:**

1. What from Jeff's message surprised you or encouraged you?
2. What do you think it means to live as a Christian? What is the goal? What misconceptions do you think are out there?

### **Jumping In:**

3. When someone gives their life to Christ why do you think they aren't simply taken to heaven? Why do you think God would leave them here on earth?
4. Read Philippians 1:6 and 2 Corinthians 3:18. These are two examples of how the apostle Paul speaks to God's desire to make us more like Jesus. Theologians call this term "sanctification." In Christ, God sees us as perfect, but at the same time, He continues to make us perfect.

*"Sanctification is the work of the Holy Spirit in us whereby our inner being is progressively changed, freeing us more and more from sinful traits and developing within us over time the virtues of Christlike character."*

- Jerry Bridges

What are your first thoughts about sanctification as you read this definition? Is it something you've spent time reflecting on before? Why or why not?

5. Jeff shared that one of the ways we can become more like Jesus is by rooting out idols. Read Exodus 20:3-5. When you think of the word "idols," what are the things that come to mind?

**Discuss:**

6. Jeff defined idols as the things or people that you put before God. What idols do you think our culture prioritizes most? Why do you think those are the priorities?
7. There are 4 root idols that Jeff shared: Comfort, Control, Approval, and Power. Which one of these do you struggle with the most? How does that show up in your life?
8. What do you find most difficult about rooting idols out of your life? What do you find most helpful?
9. When you consider the gospel, what do you think Jesus would say to you about your idol? Does understanding the gospel--that Jesus came to forgive us of all our sins--help you to root it out? Why or why not?

**Moving Forward:**

While you may have identified multiple idols from the message, pick one that you want to focus on and surrender it to God in prayer. Then, when you feel it rising up, speak the truth of Jesus to it.

When you feel stress and pressure and you want to escape to comfort, remind yourself of God's peace in the midst of your situation.

When you feel the need to have control, remind yourself that God has blessed you--and will continue to do so. You can trust Him with the future.

When you feel the need to please people and seek approval, remind yourself of God's unending love for you.

When you feel the need to take on more unnecessary responsibility, to gain power, or to avoid the fear of humiliation, remind yourself that you don't need to prove yourself to God. He sees you as righteous, no matter what.