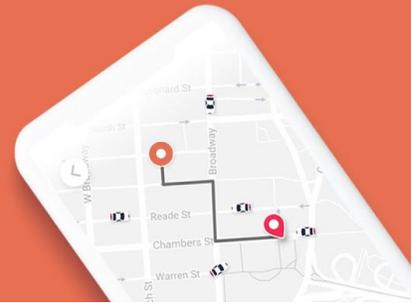


# the road to **IMPERFECTION**



## **Part Three: Moving From Powerless To Powerful // Jeff Brodie //** **October 25, 2020**

A relationship with God isn't just about getting to an eternal destination, but it's about transformation. As you aspire to leave your old roads, paths, and patterns behind and start new patterns that point to Jesus, where do you find the strength you need to make a change in your life? How do you live in freedom? What if God has a way to strengthen you to choose what's best? This week we are talking about the role of the Holy Spirit in our transformation.

**Scripture:** [Galatians 5](#)

**Bottom Line:** You can't stop what you don't surrender.

### **Getting Started:**

1. Growing up, were you focused on following or enforcing the rules, or were you caught up in the consequences of not following or bending the rules?
2. Why do you think Christians often get the reputation of being rule-following, judgmental people?

### **Jumping In:**

3. In Galatians, you see a group of people who were used to earning their way to God by following traditional rules. Read [Galatians 5:1-4, 7-10](#). Paul uses some very strong language in this section. Why do you think we struggle to accept God's grace and strive to earn our way to him?
4. On the other hand, if we don't discover the principles around what God wants for our lives, we end up being hypocrites--saying we follow Jesus but living like we don't. What do you think are the results of that kind of thinking?

### **Discuss:**

5. Read [Galatians 5:13-14](#). Here Paul begins to paint a picture of what living freely really looks like. Some would say this is counterintuitive. Why?

6. Read [Galatians 5:16-18](#). This describes an inner struggle, one often found in each of us. Do you think this struggle changes or feels different as you grow or get older, or does it feel the same? How so?
7. In [Galatians 5:22](#), Paul shares the fruit that the Holy Spirit can bring to our lives as he transforms us. Have you seen the Holy Spirit grow a specific fruit in your life in the past? Is there one you are asking for more of right now?
8. [Galatians 5:24-25](#) really sums up this passage well. Our striving and sin were both nailed to the cross with Jesus, but we often want to keep doing these things instead of allowing the Holy Spirit to be our guide. What do you think having the Holy Spirit as your guide looks like day to day?
9. Jeff shared this quote with us during the first week of the series. Do you see it differently at this point? Do different things stand out to you in the quote?

*"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*

**Moving Forward:**

This week bring your striving and sin to Jesus and surrender them to his grace. Then ask the Holy Spirit to grow one of his fruit in your life during this season. Remember, Jesus wants to see you transformed into his likeness more and more every day.