

## The Imperfect Christian

### Elders:

John Deffenbaugh  
Wayne Douthitt  
Glen Honeycutt  
Rick Hyder  
Bill Reiboldt

### Deacons:

Pete Babb  
Carl Cobb  
Alan Cook  
Barry Flint  
Casey Flint  
Josh King  
Mike Kidwell  
Tim Murray  
Bryan Reiboldt  
Jim Scott  
Peter Wald

### Local Evangelists:

Danny Boggs  
Luke Yates

### Worship Assemblies

10 a.m. Sunday  
6 p.m. Sunday

### Bible Classes

9 a.m. Sunday  
7 p.m. Wednesday

### Phone

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www.neoshochurchofchrist.org



I imagine that people have accused Christians of thinking they are perfect ever since the inception of Christianity. You have probably heard those of the world say, “You all just think you are perfect!” Or, “You Christians are really stuck-up and think you have it all together!” Or, “You people think you are better than everyone else!” If you don’t believe me, do a quick Google search for “Christians think they are perfect” and you will see how the world views us. All this being said, I want to remind us of a few truths when it comes to the Christian and perfectionism.

**First, all Christians are imperfect in and of themselves.** No morally accountable person is able to save himself or herself due to the fact that they have failed to meet the mark of God’s perfect standard. Our own works of righteousness do not save us or make us perfect (Ephesians 2:8; Titus 3:5). All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God (Romans 3:23). There is no man who has not sinned (I Kings 8:46). There is no righteous person on earth who always does good and never sins (Ecclesiastes 7:20). We are going to sin, even after we become Christians (I John 2:1-2). Sin causes us to be imperfect and every one of us has committed sin.

**Second, one would not be a Christian if he truly believed he were perfect.** A Christian is someone who puts his or her active and obedient faith in the power of Christ to save (Acts 15:11). Christians follow Christ as their Savior, hence they are called “Christ-ians”. If Christians were perfect, then they wouldn’t be Christians. If someone had the power to save themselves, they would be called a “Me-ian” or an “I-ian”, because they would simply follow themselves for

their perfection. Christians are cognizant that they is unworthy in God’s sight (Luke 18:3). Christians realize that their works of righteousness are but filthy rags to God (Isaiah 64:6). They know that they have trespassed God’s law and are in need of the perfect and righteous Advocate (I John 2:1-2). Why in the world would a perfect person follow a Savior if that person had no need of being saved from anything? And that brings us to our last truth.

**Third, the only person who has ever been perfect in and of Himself is Jesus.** When Jesus lived on this earth as a man He was certainly tempted by all sorts of temptations that we face (Matthew 4:1-10; Hebrews 2:17-18; 4:15). The main difference between Jesus and all of us is that He never gave in to that temptation. The end of Hebrews 4:15 says that Jesus was “without sin”. He had no sin (II Corinthians 5:21). In Him is no sin (I John 3:5). He never sinned, even when it would have been easy to do so (I Peter 2:22). He is perfectly good (Mark 10:17-18). Therefore, Jesus is the **only One** who can make us perfect in God’s sight (Ephesians 5:26-27; Hebrews 10:14).

Don’t believe the false notion that Christians have everything together. Christians struggle just as anyone else. Christians sin from time to time. Christians give in to failure during moments of life. Christians are not perfect, but they do know the right source to turn to in the midst of their imperfection and struggles. They know the perfect source of Christ and the fact that He can make them whole, complete, and perfect. Do you – as an imperfect being – know the perfect One of Christ?

*Luke Yates*



Pam Babb, Betty Ball, Jack Brodie, Fred Bukowich, John Burlingame, Joyce Clarkson, Angela Collett, Pete Conrow, Ed Cornell, Lee Crabtree, Tim Dawkins, Mary Jane Flint, Joe and Teresa Freund, Phyllis Goins, Faye Haught, May Hill, Wilma Hill, Doris Jones, Guy Lewis, Chester Lyons, Pearl McCleary, Judy Martin, Bob Murray, Max Naramore, Price Naramore, Ron Naramore, Pat Risley, Helen Swem, Corin Thomlinson, Bobbie Tuggle, Margaret Wald, Ruth Ann Wilson, Velda Wood, Sue York.

- **Bob Murray** is recovering at Wildwood.
- **Sue York** will have surgery next Monday.

**Sympathy:** Lenora Hyder's sister, June Breeden, passed away December 21. Services were held last Saturday.

Thanks to everyone who has been so generous to our family during the holiday season. We love you and thank God that we are part of the Hillcrest family.

*Danny and Jessica Boggs*

Thank you to everyone who helped us move Friday. We appreciate your generosity. We love each and every one of you, and we are grateful for being a part of the Hillcrest family for the last 3 ½ years. God bless you!

*Matt and Kayla Hayes*

5216 NE 44<sup>th</sup> Street, Kansas City, MO 64117

**Thank you, thank you, THANK YOU!** To all who helped on the Meals on Wheels. We had a full crew each day.

*Eldon Morgan*



**This Sunday's Sermons:**

A.M. *Courage to Pray*  
(2 Samuel 7:27, Danny Boggs)  
P.M. *One Word: Word*  
(Danny Boggs)

Thanks to everyone for giving an extra dollar on Sundays during 2017 help someone in need. We were able to help many families and individuals last year, and we hope to help even more in 2018! Remember to suggest needs we can meet to Luke.



**Area-Wide Preachers' and Church Leaders' Meeting:** Share a ride in the van from the Hillcrest parking lot at 10:30 next Monday if you'd like to go. We will meet at Golden Corral in Joplin.

**Men's Breakfast:** Join us this Thursday at 7 a.m. for breakfast and fellowship at Braum's.

**Thursday morning Ladies' Bible class** will begin a new study at 10:00 this Thursday, on 1 and 2 Thessalonians. Join us!

**The Thursday night Ladies' Bible study** will meet at Amanda Flint's house this Thursday, at 6:30 p.m. We will discuss chapters 4 & 5 of the book. January is a great time to join our study! See Amanda if you need a book.



**Devo & Donuts** will resume next Tuesday, January 9, at 7 a.m. in the Activities Center

If you would like to update **your picture in the Hillcrest directory**, please let Jessica know as soon as possible.

**Remember to read your One Word devotionals this week**, and come Sunday night to top it off in worship as we think just a little more about the word "word" in the Bible.



**Our Sunday morning sermons in January and February will focus on personal prayer.** If you have questions about prayer that you would like to hear Biblically addressed, please give them to Danny.

**PRAYER LEADERS**

**Sunday, January 7**

- AM Opening: Bill Reiboldt
- AM Closing: Pete Babb
- PM Opening: Josh King
- PM Closing: Casey Flint

**Wednesday, December January 10**

- Opening: Ethan Murray
- Closing: Charlie Collinsworth

RECORDS	12-31-17	01-01-17
Bible Study	133	132
AM Worship	173	178
PM Worship	105	157
Wednesday	136	146
Contribution	\$14,202.00	\$9,462.80
Budget	\$7,630.58	\$7,075.67