

# What Is Perfection

*July 2019*

Monthly Newsletter of MMBC July 2019 – VOLUME 7

## What Is Perfection?

The quest for perfection not only influences cultural expectations, but Christian obedience. For example, Jesus said in Matthew 5:48, “You therefore must be perfect, as your Heavenly Father is perfect (ESV).” The quest to obtain perfection constantly alludes human effort, and/or leads to a judgmental attitude and pride. In some cases, perfection can become an unhealthy obsession. So how do we reconcile Jesus’ command? Despite the fall of Adam and Eve, God never lowered the bar for living a life of obedience. However, God does offer humanity grace, through the death and resurrection of Christ. In this sermon series, “What is Perfection?” we will explore passages in the Bible related to perfection, and how God’s love and grace are the only ways that true perfection can be experienced.

- June 30<sup>th</sup> - What is Perfection?
- July 7<sup>th</sup> - Judging Perfection
- July 14<sup>th</sup> - Hidden Perfection
- July 21<sup>st</sup> - Perfect Love
- July 28<sup>th</sup> - God’s Perfect Will
- Aug 4<sup>th</sup> - Perfected Through Weakness
- Aug 11<sup>th</sup> - Perfect Law

## Church Meetings

- **July 1 Trustee’s Meeting**  
**@7:00pm**
- **July 2 BoCE Meeting**  
**@5:00pm**
- **July 18 Homebuilder’s Meeting @ 12:00pm**
- **June 23 Deacon’s Meeting**  
**@ 4:00pm**

**MMBC works BAM**

**July 1,3 & 5th**

# VBS 2019

## Bloom Where You are Planted



Dear Church Family,

The Apostle Paul wrote in his letter to the Romans, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved. But how are they to call on one whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, ‘How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!’” (Romans 10:13-16, NRSV)

I’m writing to share with you an exciting opportunity that God has provided for me to serve not only our church, but the churches of our denomination. The Executive Minister of Program and Ministry Development of ABC-Ohio, Jane Gibbons, has invited me to serve as the Academic Dean for the American Baptist Churches of Ohio’s Leadership Academy. The purpose of the Ohio Leadership Academy is to equip pastors and leaders to serve in ministry throughout our state and denomination.

First, let me assure you that this position *is a part-time role that will allow me to fulfill all the necessary duties as your pastor*. My heart continues to burn with a passion for our church and for the Belpre community. I feel that God still has a lot for us to accomplish together, and I certainly don’t want to jeopardize the opportunity that God has provided at Mullen Memorial Baptist Church.

As the Deacon Board of Mullen Memorial Baptist Church and I were considering this opportunity, the Executive Minister impressed upon me that my priorities should remain: 1) Relationship with God; 2) Family; 3) Mullen Memorial Baptist Church, 4) Academic Dean. The Deacon Board of Mullen Memorial Baptist Church and I have prayed about this opportunity and believe that it is God’s will for me to pursue the Academic Dean position. One of the roles of the Deacon Board is to hold the pastor accountable to the work of the church. I appreciate and welcome their willingness to pray and hold me accountable.

You may be wondering, “What is the role of the Academic Dean?” The primary role of the dean is to oversee the academic programs and curriculum of the Academy. The Ohio Leadership Academy meets in Sunbury, Ohio and offers classes as four weekend intensives in November, January, March, and May. The weekend classes meet on Friday and Saturday each of the months listed above. In addition to attending each of the classes, the dean is also responsible for promoting the program, and recruiting students. The dean also has the responsibility to plan opportunities for continuing education through trainings and seminars.

I am excited about the opportunity to not only advance God’s Kingdom in the Belpre community, but also to play a part in equipping the next generation of pastors and leaders in our state. God has begun to equip the next generation in Mullen Memorial Baptist Church. I believe that God is now opening the door for us to do this throughout our denomination.

My hope and prayer is that we will continue to serve together as the beautiful feet of those who bring the Good News. I ask that you pray for me as I continue to serve as your pastor, and in the role of Academic Dean. Each of you have been supportive through your encouraging words, prayers, and willingness to serve. I look forward to sharing many more opportunities to serve and grow with you as God continues to lead us into the future!

Your fellow servant in Christ,

Pastor Seth

And the second is  
like unto it, Thou  
shalt love thy  
neighbor as thyself.

– Romans 8:30

**Mullen Memorial Baptist Church  
Balance Sheet  
As of 6/30/2019**

Assets			Date	7/6/2019
	<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash	Peoples Bank	Checking		6,862.88
Cash	Peoples Bank	Checking Education Fund		488.80
Cash	Peoples Bank	Savings		5,002.76
Cash	Northwestern	Dreyfus Funds		59.40
US Gov Stock	Northwestern	Mutual Funds		71,237.11
C/D	Riverview	Credit Union		10,227.01
		<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<u>93,877.96</u>
<b>Liability</b>	<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
	Missions	ABC		689.88
	Missions	BYF		229.96
	Missions	BAM		229.96
	Missions	Scout House Repairs		1,719.66
	Taxes	Federal Payroll		808.63
	Taxes	WV & Ohio Withholding		59.31
	Taxes	Belpre City Withholding		52.86
		<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<u>3,790.26</u>
		<b>Difference</b>		<u>90,087.70</u>

Income Summary	Budget	Actual	Variance
	75,525.00	57,528.06	(17,996.94)
<b>Revenue</b>			-
	Taxes 439.98	478.08	38.10
<b>Expense</b>	Ministry 6,167.38	3,618.98	(2,548.40)
	Operations 12,790.52	10,529.85	(2,260.67)
	Staff 43,260.50	40,379.85	(2,880.65)
	Utilites 6,200.04	6,792.24	592.20
	<u>Total Expenses 68,858.42</u>	<u>61,799.00</u>	<u>(7,059.42)</u>
<b>Other Income</b>	49.98	3,642.52	3,592.54
<b>Other Expenses</b>	-	2,560.00	2,560.00
<b>Net</b>	<u>6,716.56</u>	<u>(3,188.42)</u>	<u>(9,904.98)</u>

**SERVICES:**

**SUNDAY:**

9:30am Sunday School  
10:45am Worship Service  
6:00am Evening Service

**WEDNESDAY:**

4:00pm Bible Study

You can now access sermon videos, sermon notes and weekly devotionals on our website. [www.mmbcabc.org](http://www.mmbcabc.org)  
Click the "Go Deeper" button on the front of the webpage then click the option you would like to view.

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Find us on the web at [www.mmbcabc.org](http://www.mmbcabc.org)



**Deacon of the Month: Bruce Hardman 740-423-8487**