□ YES! – because there are no perfect churches

Philippians 3:12-14

Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus. Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

1 Thessalonians 4:9-10

But as touching brotherly love ye need not that I write unto you: for ye yourselves are taught of God to love one another. And indeed ye do it toward all the brethren which are in all Macedonia: but we beseech you, brethren, that ye increase more and more;

- □ YES! because there are no perfect churches
- □ There are some *intolerable* imperfections
 - Doctrinal error

Revelation 2:12-15

And to the angel of the church in Pergamos write ... I have a few things against thee, because thou hast there them that hold the doctrine of Balaam ... So hast thou also them that hold the doctrine of the Nicolaitanes, which thing I hate.

Galatians 1:8-9

But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed.

□ YES! – because there are no perfect churches

- □ There are some *intolerable* imperfections
 - Doctrinal error
 - Moral impurity

Revelation 2:18-20

And unto the angel of the church in Thyatira write ... I have a few things against thee, because thou sufferest that woman Jezebel, which calleth herself a prophetess, to teach and to seduce my servants to commit fornication, and to eat things sacrificed unto idols.

1 Corinthians 5:1-2

It is reported commonly that there is fornication among you, and such fornication as is not so much as named among the Gentiles, that one should have his father's wife. And ye are puffed up, and have not rather mourned, that he that hath done this deed might be taken away from among you.

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- □ There are some *intolerable* imperfections
 - Doctrinal error
 - Moral impurity

- Be realistic and keep things in proper balance
- Don't just throw up your hands and leave

1 Timothy 3:15

... I write so that you may know how one ought to conduct himself in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and support of the truth.

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- □ There are some *intolerable* imperfections
 - Doctrinal error
 - Moral impurity
- □ But, how do we deal with the <u>non-sinful</u> imperfections?
 - Be realistic and keep things in proper balance
 - Don't just throw up your hands and leave
 - Don't ignore areas where improvement is needed

James 1:22-24

But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: for he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was.

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- □ There are some *intolerable* imperfections
 - Doctrinal error
 - Moral impurity

- Be realistic and keep things in proper balance
- Don't just throw up your hands and leave
- Don't ignore areas where improvement is needed
- Find areas where you can help to make things better

1 Corinthians 12:12-20

For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ . . . the body is not one member, but many . . . If the whole body were an eye, where were the hearing? If the whole were hearing, where were the smelling? But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him. And if they were all one member, where were the body? But now are they many members, yet but one body.

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 - Doctrinal error
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- Be realistic and keep things in proper balance
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- Don't ignore areas where improvement is needed
- Find areas where you can help to make things better
- Be patient with your brethren

Ephesians 4:31-32

Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: and be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.

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- Be realistic and keep things in proper balance
- Don't just throw up your hands and leave
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- Find areas where you can help to make things better
- Be patient with your brethren
- Serve as motivation for others

1 Thessalonians 5:11 - NASV

Therefore encourage one another, and build up one another, just as you also are doing.

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- Be realistic and keep things in proper balance
- Don't just throw up your hands and leave
- Don't ignore areas where improvement is needed
- Find areas where you can help to make things better
- Be patient with your brethren
- Serve as motivation for others
- Keep your eye on 'the main thing'

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