

Leaving Struggle Street

James 1:5, 1:17-21; Proverbs 2:6

God loves people from every walk of life. God didn't save us to frustrate us – he saved us to bless us in every area of our lives. Sometimes it can seem like we go through life battling and never getting ahead. God's will is to release us into an abundant life. God wants us to leave Struggle Street and to resource us with everything we need to do all that he has put in our hearts to do.

Often, it is a lack of wisdom that keeps us struggling; not a lack of resource or opportunity. If we lack wisdom, we can ask God and he will help us and he gives it to us freely without pointing the finger or finding fault. When we invite God's wisdom into our lives, our struggles, and our relationships, we find many of our problems go away. We may even find we need to ask for less last minute miracles when we have God's wisdom supporting our lives. When we trust God for godly wisdom and godly understanding, he fills our lives with his blessing, power, and promise

God wants us to be successful. Success is more than money, things, fame and fortune. Success is about being resourced to fulfil God's purpose in our lives and to be a blessing others. God allows trials to strengthen us because wants us to have the character to handle success well. When we trust Jesus and put him first in our lives, our allegiance is to him and we find our sufficiency in him through all of life's challenges and glory. We know every good and perfect gift comes from him and he wants to trust us with his blessing and see us share the love and goodness he has shown us with others.

We stand secure in Christ and God trusts us with his word, his power, and his promise. We are complete as we stay close to the word of God. God's word becomes part of us. With the word engrafted in us, when face trials and temptation we can stand mature, strong, and lacking nothing. May God's word be implanted in each of us, so we are empowered to leave our struggle and are faithful to bring the salvation and hope of Jesus to people in our world.

Church Highlights

- Heart for the House Offering
- Hillsong Conference, register online: hillsong.com/conference
- SIX LOUD WEEKENDS! What a great opportunity to bring friends & family to church in the lead up to Hillsong Conference!

Pray Together

- Salvations, that people come to know Jesus
- Pastor Brian and Bobbie Houston
- Hillsong Conference

Nation Builders

We can make a difference as a connect group by praying for the Nation Builders causes we support and by giving together. Our offering extends the reach of our church locally to reach and influence the world for Jesus.

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Connection and Action

Questions to promote conversation and connection

Wisdom

Q Who are the wisest people you know? Why?

Q What do you think of the perspective: "Do you have money problems or do you have wisdom problems?"

Q What do you think of the statement: "Perhaps we would need less miracles if we had more wisdom."

Success

Q What messages about finance and success did you inherit from your family?

Q What do you think a biblical view of success looks like?

Q Tell us about your journey to realising God wants you to succeed.

Q Who do you admire for how they handle success? Why?

Q What are some key pieces of financial wisdom you've learned, and what difference have they made?

Bible and Belief

Questions to help believers develop a biblical world view

Read James 1:5-8, 1:17-21

Q If we don't have it, according to James how do we get it?

Q Is that the only way to get wisdom, according to the bible?

Q What does James say doubt does to us when we are in need of wisdom? How do we overcome this?

Q Describe James' understanding of God of Father found in these verses.

Q What does the word do to us? (v. 18, 21)

Q What does James say we are to do with the word?

Read Proverbs 2:1-11

Q What is similar about this passage and the James passage above?

Q What promises are found here?

Q How would these verses help someone who lacked wisdom or was struggling with making a decision?

Q Do these verses open up peace or freedom in an area in your life?

Growing Leadership

Questions to help people grow as leaders

Finance and Success

Q Describe how you came to a revelation of tithing and honouring God with your finances.

Q How have the challenges of life increased as you've become more successful?

Q How have you grown to respond to these challenges?

Helping People

Q How would you respond to someone who believed it was not God's will for us to be successful?

Q How are you coaching and helping people become successful?

Q What common hindrances do you find people have in becoming successful?

Building the Group

Activity Discuss how you can help the people you each lead to prepare for Heart for the House.

Pastoral Care

- We have a pastoral care team at church to walk alongside people through life's challenges
- With their permission, should anyone in your connect group have experience sickness, death of a loved one, marriage challenges, or surgeries, please contact our church office:
Sydney 02 8853 5353, Melbourne 03 9720 2099, Brisbane 07 3422 8500, Newcastle 02 4927 1888