

You Get What You Go For

James 1:5-8, 14; Proverbs 14:14; Psalm 92:12-13

We get what we go for in life. Desire is powerful and can lead us in positive or negative directions. In life, our desires will frame our decisions and in time, our decisions determine our position. God's desire is to pour out his blessing on us. When we pursue Christ, desiring the things of God, and make decisions according to his will, we will see God-given opportunity and God-given purpose fill our life.

When Christ is our pursuit, we want God's will and God's way. We slip backwards when we can't let go of our own ways and lack faith. God doesn't hold back his blessing from us, but if we choose to be full of our own ways, desires and pursuits – we get what we go for – and make it difficult for our lives to receive his blessing.

Sacrifice is scary – it costs us something. Though it may be scary, it feels good to sacrifice our ways and align ourselves to God's will. If we are drawn away by our own desires, we can become lean in our spirit or double-hearted, which takes us away from fulfilment and being healthy on the inside. God wants to fill us with his goodness. We will never come second by putting God first in our lives. When we lay down our pursuits and desires, we see God become the fullness in our souls and he gives us the desires of our hearts.

With our identity in Christ, we can see ourselves the way God sees us. We understand life isn't about what we have but about who we are in Christ and what Christ is wanting to do in and through our life. Grounded in the word of God, committed to his church, we hold to the things God speaks over our lives and align our desires with his will and purpose. When our desire is for him and we decide to go after him, we get his presence and our lives become a beautiful testimony to the power and promise of God.

Church Highlights

- Heart for the House Offering (Fri 19th – Sun 21st June)
- 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

Desire

Q Where do you think our desires come from?

Q What are some of your desires for life, relationships, career, ministry, finances, impact, etc?

Q Not all our desires produce the purposes of God. How have you learned to evaluate your desires?

Q Do you ever find yourself with competing desires? Tell us about them?

Q What desired did you find changing after you became a Christian?

Q How do desires fuel a life of impact? Is this the case in your life?

Q The things we desire don't just happen. What does it take for them to become reality? Give some examples from your own life.

Q How do desires fuel a life of impact? Is this the case in your life?

Bible and Belief

Questions to help believers develop a biblical world view

Read James 1:5-8 and Colossians 3:1-4

Q In the Colossians passage, what does Paul advise Christians to "go for" or pursue?

Q How do the beliefs of someone who is "double-minded" differ from a person whose mind is set on things above?

Read James 1:14 and Colossians 3:5-11

Q What do these passages say have the potential to lead us away from Christ? Is this still true for us today?

Read Colossians 3:12-17

Q Which of these practices stands out to you as helpful for us today to live in Christian community?

Q Envision the outcomes and fruit that would be evident of a group of believers who go after these things. What are we getting right? Where can we grow?

Q Do these verses spark any new desires in you? Is there one you can commit to pursue in your life? What will it take?

Growing Leadership

Questions to help people grow as leaders

Q What key principles about building life and leadership have you learned at church and applied successfully in life. Tell us about the impact they've had.

Helping People

Q How would you respond to someone who believed it was not God's will to bless them?

Q How are you coaching and helping people make decisions that position them well in Christ, in church and in life?

Building the Group

Q Discuss the following statements in relation to leadership and building a group team or Connect Group:

- You get what you go for.
- You get what you allow.

Q How can these ideas be applied to relationships, home and family life?

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