

## **SERIES: LIFE, MONEY, HOPE. #2**

Haggai 1:5-7 (NIV)<sup>5</sup> Now this is what the LORD Almighty says: “**Give careful thought to your ways.** <sup>6</sup> You have planted much, but harvested little. You eat, but never have enough. You drink, but never have your fill. You put on clothes, but are not warm. You earn wages, only to put them in a purse with holes in it.”<sup>7</sup> This is what the LORD Almighty says: “Give careful thought to your ways.

**TITLE: THE WAY OUT.**

Luke 15:11-16 (NIV) <sup>11</sup> Jesus continued: “There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup> The younger one said to his father, ‘Father, **give me my share of the estate.**’ So he divided his property between them. <sup>13</sup> “Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. <sup>14</sup> After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup> So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. <sup>16</sup> He longed to fill his stomach with

the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything.

**A. WE BELIEVE A LIE.**

Proverbs 16:18 (NIV) Pride goes **before** destruction, a haughty spirit **before** a fall.

**B. ENGAGE IN SELF DESTRUCTIVE BEHAVIOR.**

Proverbs 14:12-13 (MSG) There's a way of life that **looks harmless** enough; look again—it leads straight to hell. Sure, those people appear to be having a good time, but all that laughter will end in heartbreak.

**C. WE ISOLATE OURSELVES FROM THOSE WHO CAN HELP.**

Proverbs 18:1 (ESV) Whoever **isolates himself** seeks his own desire; he breaks out against all **sound judgment**.

**D. WE FIND OURSELVES IN A DARK PLACE.**

Psalms 34:18 (NIV) The LORD is **close** to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

1 Corinthians 10:13 (MSG) No test or temptation that comes your way is beyond the course of what others have had to face. All you need to

remember is that **God will never let you down**; he'll never let you be pushed past your limit; he'll always be there to **help you** come through it.

Luke 15:17-21 (NIV) <sup>17</sup> “When he **came to his senses**, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! <sup>18</sup> I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. <sup>19</sup> I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.’ <sup>20</sup> So **he got up** and went to his father. “But while he

was still a long way off, **his father saw him** and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him. <sup>21</sup> “The son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’”

**1.ACKNOWLEDGE THE REALITY OF WHERE YOU’RE AT.**

**2.DEVELOP A PLAN OF ATTACK.**

Proverbs 27:12 (NIV) The prudent **see danger and take refuge**, but the simple keep going and pay the penalty.

### **3. DO IT NOW.**

2 Corinthians 6:2 (NIV) For he says, “In the time of my favor I heard you, and in the day of salvation I helped you.”<sup>[a]</sup> I tell you, **now is the time of God’s favor**, now is the day of salvation.

### **4. HUMBLY ASK YOUR FATHER FOR HELP.**

1 Peter 5:5b-7 (NIV) <sup>5</sup> ... “God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble.”

<sup>6</sup> **Humble yourselves**, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. <sup>7</sup> Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.