# Everyone has something to offer 3. Rom 7:14-25

## Building the church in the 21st Century

# God made us unique

## Ps 139 tells us something of the unique place we hold in creation and in God’s plans

### God produced individuals with a tremendous capacity to grow and learn and develop

## We have unique wiring

### They way we tick, think and process things is different

# God made us complicated

## There seems to be twin pairs of drives in each of us

### Habits and personality traits come about through the drives we feed

## The drives do not make us good or evil

### How we react to them affects how we relate to God and to others

#### Our drives and personalities may explain our behaviour, but it doesn’t excuse it

## When a person becomes a Christian the drives don’t do away (Romans 7:14-25)

# God made you to reach out to Him

### To go beyond the search for answers in our experience or environment

## The answers are found in letting Christ in

### Recognising that we are strugglers will make us more useful when we offer our time, talents and treasures to God’s service

## Everyone has something to offer

### Each one is responsible for overcoming in the inner battle

# Homegroup/Private study questions

# Your wiring

## How are you wired differently to others?

### If God made you to be wired in a certain way does this mean you should not try to, or be open to, change?

## Did the grid help you to understand yourself better?

## Did the grid help you to understand other people better?

### What was interesting/surprising about the results?

# Romans 7:14-25

## Some have argued that this passage is not about the Christian: that Paul was writing about himself before he became a Christian

### To what extent do you agree/disagree with this viewpoint?

## If it is about a Christian why should we call ourselves ‘wretched’ (24)?

## Is Paul saying that Christians can’t help sinning?

### Does this mean that sinning is excusable because it can’t be helped?

## Why do you think Paul continues to use the terminology of slavery when we have been rescued and set free through the cross of Christ?

## How far do you agree with John Stott who says that v14-17 and v18-20 say the same thing?

## Some have argued that 7:14-25 is a necessary stage of Christian development but that the normal Christian life is reflected in Ch 8

### To what extent do you agree with this?

# Reaching out to God

## Christian self-despair differs from that of others because in it we reach out to God

### In what ways do you agree/disagree with this view?

#### Explain your answer