

**Bay Area Church of Christ
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Robert Cox**

Hebrews 5:12-14

THE PROBLEM WITH BEING STUCK.

The problem is that I am trapped in a endless cycle.

“...you need someone to teach you...all over again.” (v. 13a)

“You will be ever hearing but never understanding; you will be ever seeing but never perceiving.”

27 For this people's heart has become calloused; they hardly hear with their ears, and they have closed their eyes.

Otherwise they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts and turn, and I would heal them.
Acts 28:26-27 (NIV)

I am destined perpetual immaturity.

***“But solid food is for the mature...”
(v.13a)***

***“And he gave some as Apostles, and
some, prophets; and some, preachers
of the good news; and some to give
care and teaching;***

***12 For the training of the saints as
servants in the church, for the building
up of the body of Christ... 15 So that we
may be no longer children”
Ephesians 4:11, 12, 15 (BBE)***

I am forced to live in an unskilled manner.

*“Anyone who lives on milk, being still an infant, is not acquainted with the teaching about righteousness.”
(v.13b)*

*“No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it.”
Hebrews 12:11 (ESV)*

I am disposed to making bad decisions.

“But solid food is for the mature, who by constant use have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil.” (v.14)

“Teach me to use good judgment and knowledge, because I believe in your commandments. 67Before you made me suffer, I used to wander off, but now I hold on to your word.”
Psalms 119:66, 67 (GWT)

HOW TO GET UNSTUCK.

Assess my position – Ask “Where am I?”

“By this time you ought to be teachers yourselves, yet here I find you need someone to sit down with you and go over the basics on God again, starting from square one--baby's milk, when you should have been on solid food long ago!”
Hebrews 5:12 (MP)

Ascertain my problem – Ask “Why am I here?”

Is it that I do not have the appropriate assistance?

“*We have a lot to explain about this to you*”

Is it that I do not have the appropriate aptitude?

“...explaining it to you is hard... By now you should be teachers.”

Is it that I do not have the appropriate attitude?

“... it is difficult to explain...since you are spiritually dull and don't... listen.”

“They do not understand, and they know nothing, because they refuse to listen. So they cannot have the life that God gives.”
Ephesians 4:18 (NCV)

Acquire Help. Ask *“What do I need to get where I want?”*

I will need humility. *“You need milk...the elementary...”*

“God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble. 10Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.”
James 4:6, 10 (NIV)

I will need help. *“You need some one to teach you...”*

“...Christ gave to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers.

12Their responsibility is to equip God's people to do His work and build up the church, the body of Christ...

16He makes the whole body fit together perfectly. As each part does its own special work,

it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love.”
Ephesians 4:11, 12, 16 (NLT)

Remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith.
Hebrews 13:7 (NIV)
