

# GOOD TO GREAT

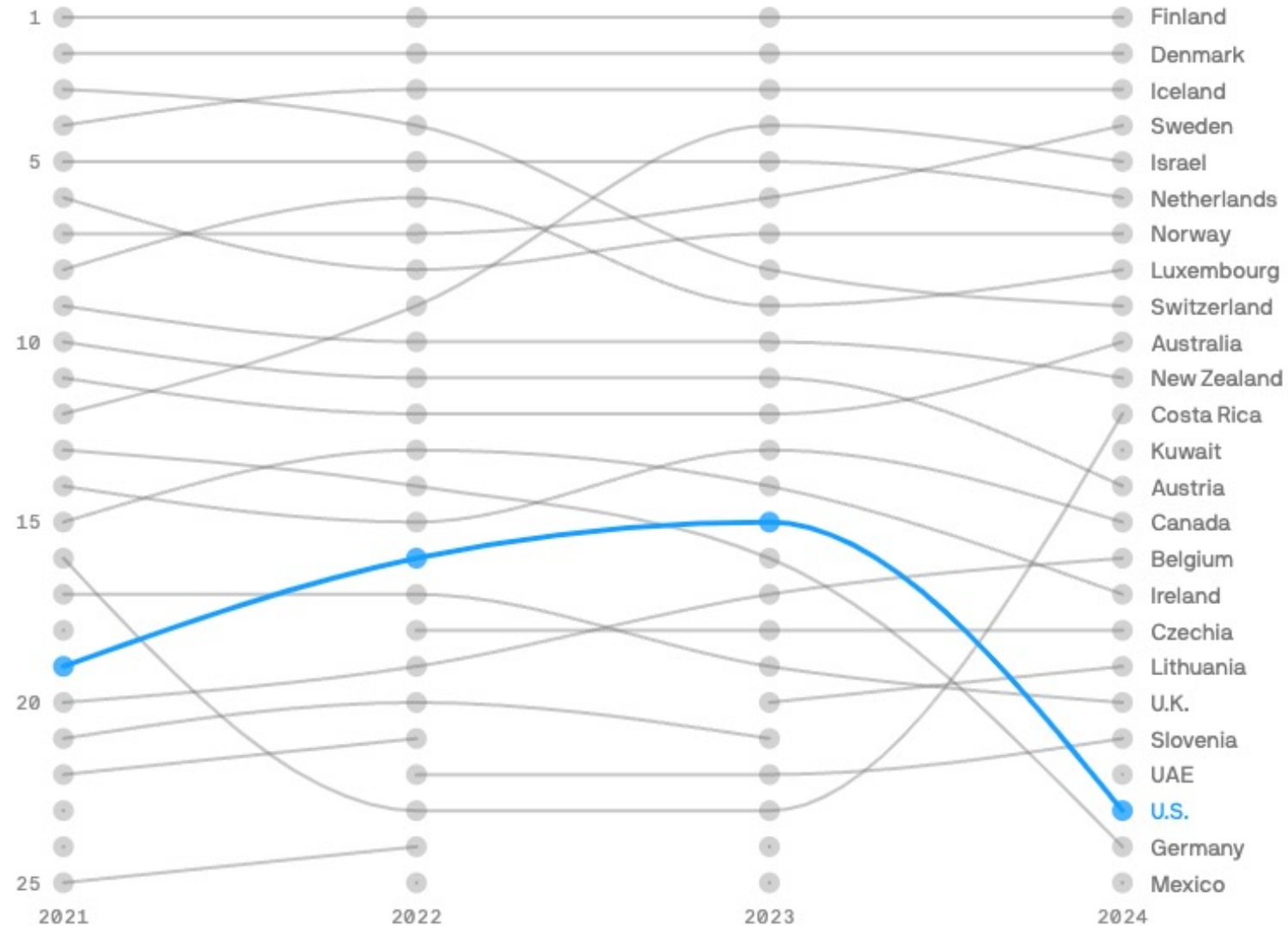
THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT

**SUSTAINING GREATNESS**



# World Happiness country rankings, 2021–2024

By average life evaluation score, from survey of about 1,000 adults per country conducted annually



Data: [World Happiness Report](#); Chart: Jacque Schrag/Axios



"People are hearing that the world is going to hell in a handbasket and the young especially are feeling more threatened by it."

—John Helliwell, Professor Emeritus,  
University of British Columbia



**The BLESSED and FLOURISHING LIFE**  
is inextricably tied to the  
*choices we make,*  
*the people we listen to,*  
*and the life we build.*



***TWO CHOICES***

**Two ways**

**Two gates**

**Two destinies**

***Choose wisely.***



# ***TWO INFLUENCERS***

**False prophets**

**True prophets**



# Matthew 7:21

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“Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.”



## **Romans 10:9-10**

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If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

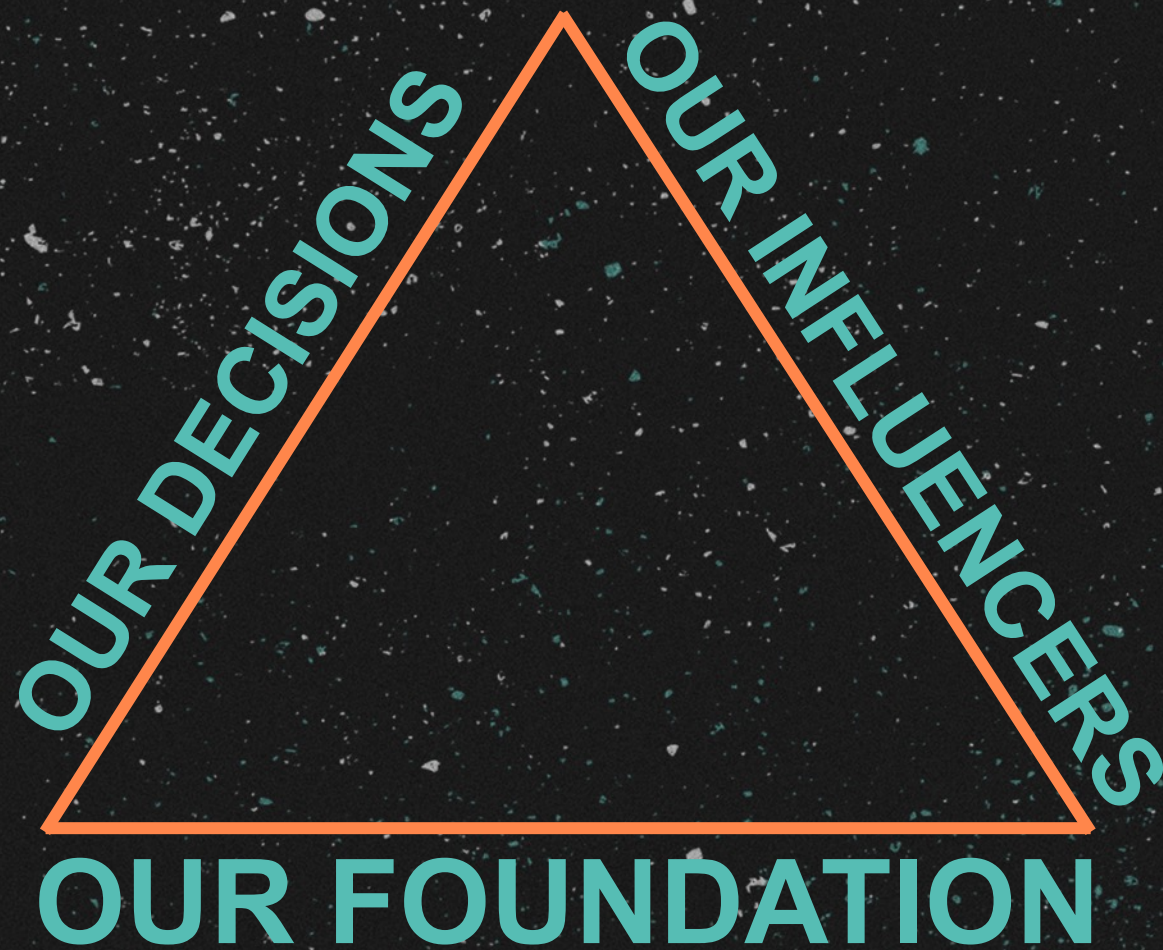
<sup>10</sup> For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.



**OUR DECISIONS**

**OUR INFLUENCERS**







# **Two Foundations**

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**BAD FOUNDATION =**  
failure, fragility, instability, weakness



# **Two Foundations**

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**BAD FOUNDATION =**  
failure, fragility, instability, weakness

**GOOD FOUNDATION =**  
success, longevity,  
sustainability, strength



# Jude 1:3

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...urge you to contend for the faith that was once for all entrusted to God's holy people.



# **Two facts on sustainable blessed life**

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**1) Foundations are BUILT**



# Three foundational building blocks

1) We need to **HAVE** the Word of God.

*...faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ. –Romans 10:17*



# FACT

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There are 7,394 Languages in the world. 1,268 haven't even *started* translating the Bible.



# Three foundational building blocks

- 1) We need to **HAVE** the Word of God.
- 2) We need to **HEAR** the Word of God.

Matthew 11:15; 13:43:

*“He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”*

Matthew 24:15:

*“...let the reader understand.”*



# Three foundational building blocks

- 1) We need to **HAVE** the Word of God.
- 2) We need to **HEAR** the Word of God.

1 Timothy 4:13:

*...devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to preaching and to teaching.*





# EASTER

AT GRACE POINT CHURCH

MARCH 31<sup>ST</sup>, 2024

8AM • 9:30AM • 11AM





# **Three foundational building blocks**

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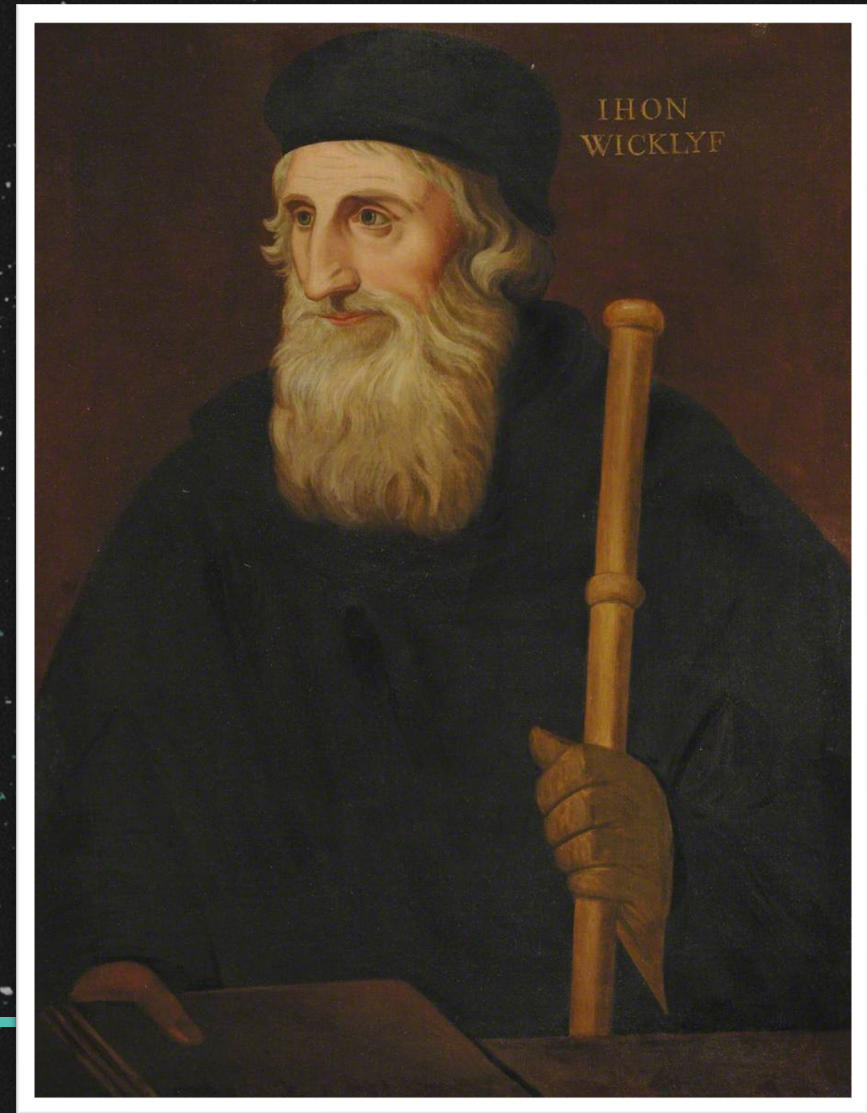
- 1) We need to **HAVE** the Word of God.
- 2) We need to **HEAR** the Word of God.

Revelation 1:3:

*Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear it and take to heart what is written in it.*



“...appropriately, simply,  
directly, and from a devout  
and sincere heart ...”  
—John Wycliffe





# Three foundational building blocks

- 1) We need to **HAVE** the Word of God.
- 2) We need to **HEAR** the Word of God.
- 3) We need to **HEED** the Word of God.



# **Three foundational building blocks**

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- 1) We need to **HAVE** the Word of God.
- 2) We need to **HEAR** the Word of God.
- 3) We need to **HEED** the Word of God.

Matthew 7:24:  
*“...hears and does...”*



# Matthew 7:28-29

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And when Jesus **finished** these sayings, the crowds were astonished at his teaching, <sup>29</sup> for he was teaching them as one who had authority, and not as their scribes.



# Three foundational building blocks

- 1) We need to **HAVE** the Word of God.
- 2) We need to **HEAR** the Word of God.
- 3) We need to **HEED** the Word of God.

John 14:23 (NLT):

*Jesus replied, “**All who love me will do what I say**. My Father will love them, and we will come and make our home with each of them.”*



# Three foundational building blocks

- 1) We need to **HAVE** the Word of God.
- 2) We need to **HEAR** the Word of God.
- 3) We need to **HEED** the Word of God.

John 8:31 (NASB)

*Jesus replied, "If you **continue** in My word, then you are truly My disciples."*



“...everyone then who hears these words of mine and **does them...**”

–Matthew 7:24

“...everyone who hears these words of mine and **does not do them...**

–Matthew 7:26



The disciple who  
**HAS, HEARS,**  
and **HEEDS**

God's word is

**WISE**

φρόνιμος (phronimos)



# 1 Corinthians 10:15

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I speak as to **sensible people.**



The disciple who  
**HAS, HEARS,**  
and **HEEDS**  
God's word is  
**WISE**  
φρόνιμος (phronimos)

The disciple who  
**HAS, HEARS,**  
and **DOESN'T HEED**  
God's word is a  
**FOOL**  
μωρός (*mōros*)



# LIFE PRINCIPLE

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**Don't be a moron.**



# James 1:22

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- But don't just listen to God's word. You must do what it says. Otherwise, you are only **fooling** yourselves.



# **Two facts on sustainable blessed life**

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- 1) Foundations are **BUILT**
- 2) Foundations are **TESTED**



# **Proverbs 10:25 (NLT)**

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When the storms of life come, the wicked are whirled away, but the godly have a lasting foundation.



# Luke 6:48

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“...he is like a man building a house, who **dug deep** and laid the foundation on the rock.”



# **What kind of soil...**

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- **HARD HEART**



# What kind of soil...

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- HARD HEART
- SHALLOW HEART



# **What kind of soil...**

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- **HARD HEART**
- **SHALLOW HEART**
- **CROWDED HEART**



# **What kind of soil...**

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- **HARD HEART**
- **SHALLOW HEART**
- **CROWDED HEART**
- **FRUITFUL HEART**



# **Matthew 13:23**

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“As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”



# **Two truths about your storms**

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**1) EVERYONE'S foundations  
will be tested.**



# Matthew 5:45

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“For he causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous.”



# **Two truths about your storms**

- 1) Everyone's foundations will be tested.**
- 2) When it rains it pours.**



# James 1:2

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...when you meet trials of various kinds...



# Matthew 7:27

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“And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell, and great was the fall of it.”



## **2 Samuel 22:5-7a**

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“For the waves of death encompassed me, the torrents of destruction assailed me; <sup>6</sup> the cords of Sheol entangled me; the snares of death confronted me.

<sup>7</sup> “In my distress I called upon the LORD; to my God I called.”



## **2 Samuel 22:22-23**

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“For I have kept the ways of the LORD and have not wickedly departed from my God. <sup>23</sup> For all his rules were before me, and from his statutes I did not turn aside.”



# Matthew 24:35

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“Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.”



# Isaiah 40:8

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The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.



Political systems and parties will come and go,  
*...but the word of our God will stand forever.*

Kingdoms and superpowers will take over and be taken over,  
*...but the word of our God will stand forever.*

Influencers will appear and disappear,  
*...but the word of our God will stand forever.*

Fashion will change in every season,  
*...but the word of our God will stand forever.*

Titles will be given, titles will be taken away,  
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...but the word of our God will stand

***FOREVER.***