

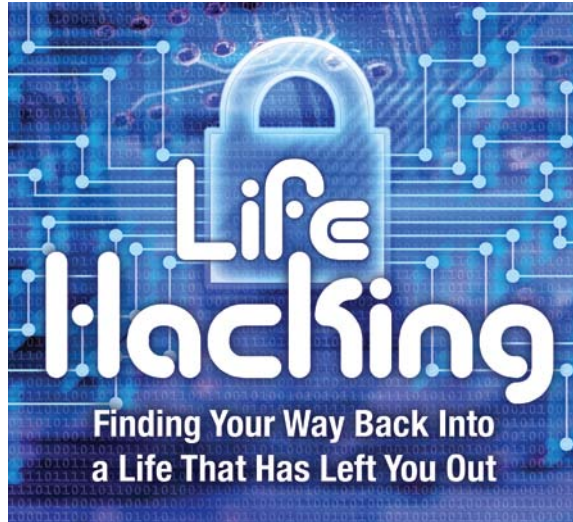
## Life Hacking

The term, **hacking**, has a double meaning:

**Violation**—getting somewhere a person is not supposed to be.

**Penetration**—ability to gain access and operate in a previously closed environment.

“Life Hacking” is a term coined at a 2004 technology conference by British tech guru, Danny O’Brien. In his original presentation, O’Brien used this term to describe self-improvement skills for the growing digital subculture. Life hacking is a way to manage technological growth and development in a way that makes life better.



My goal in this series is not to teach technological short cuts or provide self-improvement suggestions, but to offer spiritual solutions to complex issues and “fire walls” that have created conflict, crisis and resistance in our daily lives.

“For most people—geeks or not—modern life is just this incredibly complex problem amenable to no good obvious solutions.” —Danny O’Brien

“Life hacking communities focus not just on efficiency, but also on making life more satisfying.”  
—*Time Magazine*

“Life hacks are about getting things done and solving life’s problems with modest solutions... they boil down self-help to actionable nuggets on subjects that range from workplace negotiations to travel planning.”  
—Merlin Mann, 43 Folders

Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come. Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide **the way of escape**, that you may be able to endure it. —1 Corinthians 10:11-13

There are many biblical accounts of people who struggled with the same issues we face today. In this series, we will explore the lives of some of these people and discover God’s secrets for hacking in life.

Read the story of Samson found in Judges 13-16.

“If you could kick the person responsible for most of your troubles, you couldn’t sit down for a week.” —Theodore Roosevelt

### Life Hacking: Samson

**1) You complicate your life by failing to learn from your mistakes.**

Samson had two glaring weaknesses: desire and temper. He gave himself to lust and physical indulgence, and he lived for revenge.

**2) You miscalculate the compounding influence of wrong friends.**

You are asking for trouble if you allow yourself to be influenced by the wrong people.

“If you want to soar with eagles, you can’t run around with turkeys.”

“The righteous should choose his friends carefully, for the way of the wicked leads them astray.”  
—Proverbs 12:26

**3) You underestimate the importance of taking God seriously.**

God is a “convenience” to many people, an after thought or a place to run in case of an emergency. Many people fail to hear and heed His wisdom for life.

Samson was careless about his spiritual life. God had a plan and purpose for Samson, but Samson was too busy with plans of his own. At the end of his life, we see Samson praying and seeking God, but the majority of his life was driven by his own impulses.

We need God’s strength for life today. This can only begin when we turn our lives over to Him.