

Wednesday

Read: Haggai 2:4-5 *Cause for courage*

Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *What fears did the people have about the temple?*
2. *Give thanks for all the ways God is with you today, offering strength and courage.*

Prayer Focus It's difficult to sit on the edge of the unknown. Give us patience and courage as we wait on your word. Thank you for the assurance that you're with us, and that our fears will fade in your light.

Thursday

Read: Haggai 2:6-8 *God's treasure*

Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *Should our churches work to bring in silver and gold? Or does God expect something different?*
2. *What new treasures might we discover in our church's future?*

Prayer Focus Provider and Sustainer, we give thanks for all you have given. Send your Holy Spirit to shake us up and prepare us for the next chapter you are writing with us.

Friday

Read: Haggai 2:9 *Expect better with God*

Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *What are the dangers of nostalgia?*
2. *Commit to doing the work, with God, to bring true prosperity in God's world.*

Prayer Focus We see that we're wealthy in all you provide, that in you we have plenty to share, which is true prosperity. Use us, God. Lead us to be your hope in our church and our community.

Refocused

Pastor's message: Haggai 1:15b-2:9. Now, the vote is taken. Let's refocus on our mission and confession: 1) We live for God's glory; 2) We are courageous because God is with us.

Message Notes:

Small Group Format



Welcome

- Introductions/getting acquainted
- Mutual Invitation question: *Have you ever returned to a place from your past and found it changed? Briefly, how was that experience?*

Opening Prayer

Song (optional)

Reflection on Scripture

Have someone read: **Haggai 1:15b-2:9**

- Discuss observations about the text
 - *What word or phrase strikes you the most?*
 - *What do you think is the most important point of the text?*

Application of Scripture (The central transformative questions)

- What did you hear God say to you through this week's Scriptures?
- What are you doing about it?
- How can we support you?

Share your faith (in groups of 3)

- *How have you experienced God recently in your life?* (This is a weekly question - it may be difficult to answer at first, but if you ask it each week you may start to notice God more in your life.)

Pray for each other

Refreshments (optional)

REFOCUSED **November 6, 2022**

Monday

Read: Haggai 1:15b-2:3 *Looking back*

Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *Why does Haggai ask who saw the temple when it was in its glory days?*
2. *After generations in exile, what might the people have been hoping for when they returned?*

Prayer Focus Holy One, we still have some grief over what we feel we've lost. Yet you did not bring us this far so we could stand and look back at the "good old days." Help us to see clearly where we are today.

Tuesday

Read: Haggai 1:3b *Taking stock now*

Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *Should the people try to rebuild? Or start fresh?*
2. *We've just faced a decision about the future of our physical church. Reflect on what it means to move forward on our decision.*

Prayer Focus Be patient with us, God, as we learn to move on from our past. You are the only one who knows the future, but you have assured us that your plans are for good for all your creation.