

GROUP DISCUSSION | November 6 | Week 6 | Haggai 1

SERIES OVERVIEW

This 6-week series addresses what God did for the Jewish people as recorded in the book of Ezra and how He also reclaims and redeems our lives for His purpose in this world.

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE:

Think of this discussion guide as a springboard. Use what's helpful to your group and lean into discussion that's sparked from the insight and input of your group.

CONNECTION

Monte opened with a story about a time his daughter forgot underwear on vacation. When was a time you forgot something important? Share with the group!

TRUTH

Recap: Last week, we unpacked the completion of the temple rebuild. Now, we're going to flashback to the prophet's teaching that motivated the Israelites to finish.

What stood out from the message this week?

Through the account in Haggai chapter 1, we get 3 directives used to inspire God's people.

- 1) Make God your first priority | Read Haggai 1:1-4 What started off due to opposition led to justifying their stagnancy and selfishness. What was priority for God's people at this time? How did they get to this point? Why is it hard to see imbalance in your own priorities?
- 2) Evaluate your ways | Read Haggai 1:5-11 What does this passage tell you about God? About people? What would it look like to "give careful thought to your ways?" How can you do that without it leading to excuses or complacency? At this time, God's people are called out for taking care of their own homes before completing the temple; what practices have you seen help you prioritize your faith and to live it out practically with time, talent, or resources?
- 3) Start serving God | Read Haggai 1:12-15
 At some point, you're either obedient or you're not. When it came down to it, God's people were moved to resume the rebuild and ultimately complete the project.
 What does this passage tell you about God? About people?
 Where do you see His faithfulness and where do you see His people's obedience?

APPLICATION

Monte closed with these 2 questions for business owners that apply to our faith. What's my business? How's business? When it comes to putting your faith in action, it's good to take inventory. How would you answer those questions in regard to what God's calling you to in this season?