

THE BOOK OF

Haggai

BIBLE STUDY GUIDES FOR SMALL GROUPS

RELATIONAL BIBLE STUDY SERIES

CREATED BY STEVE CASE

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Blessings From Building

OPENING QUESTION

When have you been involved in some type of construction project?

READ Haggai 1:1–15.

1. Why did God want the temple to be rebuilt?

- A. It didn't really matter to God.
- B. God was homeless until the people built him a temple/sanctuary.
- C. The people needed the temple more than God needed it.
- D. The building is important for gathering.
- E. The building is important for worship.
- F. The building isn't as important as what's happening with the people.
- G. This is for God to dwell with his people (*Exodus 25:8*).
- H. God expected all nations to come to a new temple.
- I. Other.

2. Why were people saying it wasn't time to rebuild the temple (vs. 2)?

- A. Darius had given them permission to build houses, but not a temple.
- B. They didn't have the necessary resources.
- C. They didn't have the necessary resolve.
- D. If God wanted a temple, he could build it himself.
- E. God wanted his people to build his temple.
- F. The people were content with their own houses.
- G. It's best if you start with your own house.
- H. It's best if you start with God's house.
- I. Other.

3. Which of these is likely to take priority over the house of God for you?

- A. Personal prosperity.
- B. Personal spirituality.
- C. Family—time together, memory-making, facing various family crises.
- D. Community service projects.
- E. My own house(s).
- F. Virtual church.
- G. Travel and vacationing.
- H. Sports.
- I. Other.

4. Why don't we experience more of God's blessings now?

- A. We have what we need.
- B. We have more than what we need.
- C. We need more.
- D. We want more.
- E. We don't ask.
- F. Lack of obedience.
- G. It would make us less dependent on God.
- H. "Blessings for obedience" was just for Old Testament times.
- I. Other.

5. What action is God calling for today (vs. 8)?

- A. Go to Home Depot or Lowe's and buy construction supplies.
- B. Build a new church structure.
- C. Remodel your church.
- D. Build the people in your church rather than the building itself.
- E. Bring more people to your church.
- F. Take your church to more people.
- G. Tune in to God's message for you.
- H. Do something for God—anything.
- I. Other.

6. What would spark your enthusiasm for God now?

- A. A supernatural event.
- B. A message from a prophet.
- C. Some type of noticeable increase in church attendance.
- D. A revival in my church.
- E. A revival in me.
- F. I'm experiencing what some call "the dark night of the soul."
- G. My current priorities might require a change.
- H. Other.

7. When has God blessed you? When has God withheld his blessings for you?

8. When has God given you the sense that he is with you?

You Ain't Seen Nothin' Yet

OPENING QUESTION

What is one of your favorite church buildings or cathedrals?

READ Haggai 2:1—23.

1. When does your church building seem worse than it had been before?

- A. After a fire.
- B. After a pandemic.
- C. A noticeable drop in attendance raises concern.
- D. When it needs to be remodeled.
- E. When deferred maintenance can't be deferred any longer.
- F. When changes are made and older saints don't like the changes.
- G. There just doesn't seem to be any life when people come to church.
- H. It has more to do with the people than the building.
- I. Other.

2. Why did the people need the message to “be courageous” (vs. 4)?

- A. They lacked courage.
- B. When Moses returned to Egypt, the Israelites were slaves.
- C. When Moses led the Israelites out of Egypt, they plundered the Egyptians.
- D. At the Red Sea, it seemed Pharaoh would annihilate God's people.
- E. At Mount Sinai, the Israelites quaked like the mountain when God thundered his presence.
- F. After the golden calf incident, the Israelites needed courage more than repentance.
- G. Rebuilding the temple after the exile seemed impossible.
- H. God's people seem to always need this message.
- I. Other.

3. When are you most likely to need God's Spirit to remain among you?

- A. Most of the time.
- B. Especially when going through tough times.
- C. Especially when going through easy times.
- D. Times I feel alone, useless, or worthless.
- E. Uncertain about what to do (or not do) at any given moment.
- F. New experiences.
- G. Surrounded by evil.
- H. When I exit the sanctuary.
- I. Other.

4. Why will God “shake the heavens and the earth”?

- A. God is a high-impact deity.
- B. The heavens and the earth need a good shaking.
- C. This means God is going to set things right—justice and judgment.
- D. God likes to shake things up.
- E. Nature remains one of God’s preferred ways to carry out his will.
- F. Change.
- G. Displace bad leaders and place good leaders.
- H. Other.

5. Why promise a blessing when everything seemed defiled (vs. 12-14)?

- A. The people stopped touching defiled things.
- B. Removal of things that defile.
- C. More priests meant there would be more holy sacrifices.
- D. People became more careful to avoid things that defile.
- E. It was just God’s mercy to people who were perpetually defiled.
- F. The temple was finally constructed.
- G. It’s called “grace”—a gift based on God’s goodness, not ours.
- H. Other.

6. Why has God chosen you (vs. 23)?

- A. I don’t think he has, because _____.
- B. I think he has, because _____.
- C. I don’t know.
- D. This is only for political rulers like Zerubbabel.
- E. Because I chose him.
- F. Sometimes this word comes from God, other times through people.
- G. Many are called, but few are chosen.
- H. Other.

7. When has God’s Spirit been among you—individually and with your church?

8. When have you seen God upend the world? When would you like to see God do that?

