

HAGGAI 1:12-15

GETTING STARTED...

Can anyone really change? We often assume that people do not change, and any real, lasting change is impossible. Yet the message of the gospel is that real change is not only possible, but necessary for our lives as Christians. And the Bible is very clear that the change that is needed is given by God. God does the work of transformation and we are called to live that transformation out. This is the picture of what God does in through the prophet Haggai. Haggai speaks God's word to the people and the people not only listen, but they obey. They take steps to build God's Temple and put aside their selfish pursuits. Not because they had sufficient willpower, but because God did a work in their hearts. Our call as Christians is to live out the transformation that God has done in our hearts in obedience to Him.

READ THE TEXT: HAGGAI 1:12-15

¹² Then Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest, with all the remnant of the people, obeyed the voice of the Lord their God, and the words of Haggai the prophet, as the Lord their God had sent him. And the people feared the Lord.

¹³ Then Haggai, the messenger of the Lord, spoke to the people with the Lord's message, "I am with you, declares the Lord." ¹⁴ And the Lord stirred up the spirit of Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and the spirit of Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and the spirit of all the remnant of the people. And they came and worked on the house of the Lord of hosts, their God, ¹⁵ on the twenty-fourth day of the month, in the sixth month, in the second year of Darius the king.

UNDERSTANDING THE WORD

1. Identify the actions that the people take in this passage. Identify what God does in this passage. How does this give us a full view of what obedience looks like.
2. In verse 13, Haggai relays a very simple message from God, what is it? What does it mean for God to be with his people? Consider how

this promise is used throughout Scripture. (Exodus 34:6-9, Josh 1:5, Isaiah 41:10, Jer 30:11, Matt 28:20, Acts 18:10)

REFLECTING ON THE SERMON

3. What was the main point of the sermon?
4. What has God been impressing on your heart from the sermon?

APPLYING THE POINT

5. How do we put this into practice?

Agassiz/Lake Errock Have you responded to Christ in repentance and faith? What are the characteristics of obedience? What does it mean to fear God? How have you experienced His presence and power in your life as you have obeyed His voice and walked in fear?

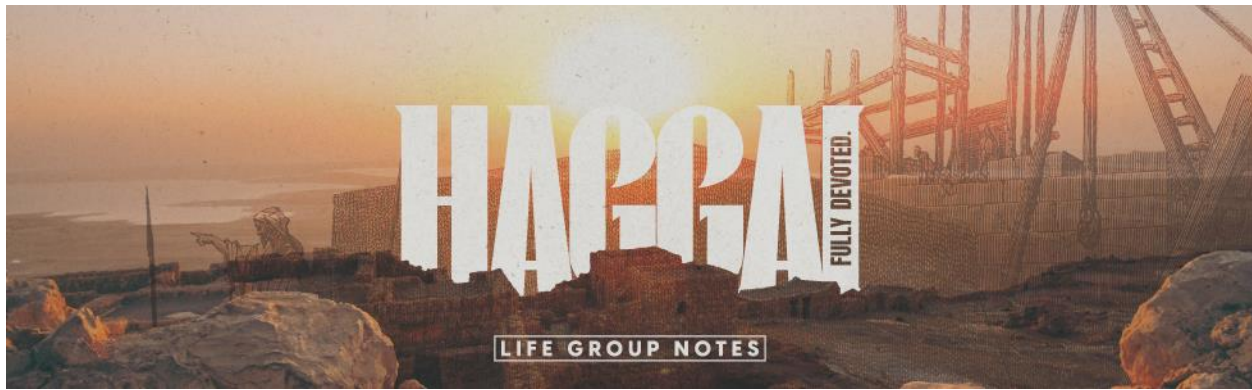
Chilliwack What are some of the priorities in your life that need to be recalibrated in order to have a greater awareness of God's promise of "I am with you?" Share a time when "I am with you" has personally impacted and recalibrated your life.

Harrison Describe your previous understanding of the fear of God. Was it a good thing? Was it a bad thing? How might you personally grow in the fear of God in such a way that it leads you to faithful obedience to Christ? What practical actions in your life would demonstrate that you fear God?

Promontory Are you quick to obey when asked to do things by others? Or does it take reminders? What do you feel that God is asking you to do right now, and what will your response be?

PRAYING & SHARING

1. How can you share what you have learned with... another believer? An unbeliever?
2. Share and pray for one another in your life group. How can you specifically pray for and encourage one another in response to this text?



How to Use this Guide

This guide is intended to help facilitate Central Life Groups as they meet to understand the Bible passage, discuss the sermon, and how to put it into practice in our lives. What is contained in this guide is not an exhaustive text analysis nor a full list of questions that can or should be asked during Life Group. This is simply a guide to help **start conversations that are centered on the Word of God.**

The Life Group Guide is separated into three main sections that are arranged with an intentional order: *Understanding the Word*, *Reflecting on the Sermon*, and *Applying the Point*. We want to first understand the Word of God, and then check that understanding by what has been preached, and then discuss how to put it into practice in our own lives. The order is intended to imitate the process of how the Word of God makes changes in our lives. Head, heart, hands, and all of it wrapped in prayer.

While the meaning of a text doesn't change, the way that we are called to apply it may look different from campus to campus, and even person to person. To reflect this distinction, you will see application questions from each campus in this guide.

Start with the question(s) from your campus and then look at others to see if they are helpful for your group. You may be surprised how similar or different they end up being and how the diversity brings a fuller understanding to how we can apply the Word of God.

Our goal is not that you answer every question in this guide, but that you are able to discuss the Word of God in a way **that helps everyone follow Jesus together!**

*“Great are the works of the LORD,
studied by all who delight in them.” - Psalm 111:2*