

Obeying God's Call to Build

Read: Haggai 1:1-2:9

Main Idea: When we answer God's call to build His kingdom, we discover our true purpose and find fulfillment beyond our personal agendas.

Key Verses: "Thus says the LORD of hosts: Consider your ways. Go up to the hills and bring wood and build the house, that I may take pleasure in it and that I may be glorified, says the LORD." (**Haggai 1:7-8**)

Key Principles:

- Prioritizing God's kingdom over personal comfort reveals that true worth is found in aligning our lives with His purposes.
- Unfruitful labor underscores that withholding time, treasure, and talent from His work leads to spiritual and material dissatisfaction, urging self-examination and repentance.
- Obedience to God's word transforms apathy into action, demonstrating that human efforts for His kingdom are empowered by His presence.
- Recognizing God's faithfulness encourages bold response to His call, as He promises to be with His people in their efforts, just as He was in the exodus.
- Past glories serve as reminders of God's blessings, motivating present faithfulness and pointing to greater future fulfillment in His kingdom.
- Seeing God's purpose fulfilled now is a reminder of ultimate victory, inspiring sacrificial commitment to God's mission today as a foretaste of eternal worship.

Discussion:

1. How does rebuilding the temple connect to our Forward initiative? How does it challenge us to see our church building project as part of God's kingdom work?
2. In what ways have personal comforts or excuses delayed your obedience to God's call? How does reflecting on unfruitful labors reveal His invitation to realign priorities?
3. Share how God has stirred your heart toward using your time, treasure, or talents for His purposes, especially in light of our church's vision for expanded ministry.
4. How does God's promise of His presence equip us to overcome obstacles in committing to the Forward Initiative, moving from apathy to active participation?
5. Discuss how past blessings at CRBC inspire confidence in current endeavors, and what steps can we take to depend on God's Spirit for the financial decisions ahead.
6. Why does future victory in God's kingdom motivate first-fruits giving now, and how can making a commitment reflect obedience and faithfulness in this season?

Prayer:

- Pray for clarity on what obedience looks like in responding to God's call.
- Pray for
 - A passion for God's kingdom over personal agendas and earthly successes.
 - The Spirit's stirring to make financial decisions that advance our church's mission.
 - Transformation resulting in heart and life change and increased generosity.

Obeying God's Call to Build
Haggai 1

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| I. | Your <u>worth</u> belongs to God. | 1:1-11 |
| 1. | God deserves your <u>time</u> . | 1:2-4 |
| 2. | God deserves your <u>treasure</u> . | 1:5-6 |
| 3. | God deserves your <u>talent</u> . | 1:7-11 |
| II. | Your <u>work</u> belongs to God. | 1:12-15 |
| 1. | You must be <u>obedient</u> to your <u>calling</u> . | 1:12 |
| 2. | God will be <u>faithful</u> to his <u>covenant</u> . | 1:13-14 |
| III. | Your <u>worship</u> belongs to God. | 2:1-9 |
| 1. | Past <u>success</u> is a <u>blessing</u> from God. | 2:3 |
| 2. | Present <u>endeavors</u> are <u>dependent</u> on God. | 2:4-5 |
| 3. | Future <u>victory</u> is a <u>promise</u> from God. | 2:6-9 |

NEXT WEEK:
Committing All to the King
Mark 12:41-44