

Sermon Title: Stop Waiting

Sermon Text: Haggai

Date: May 22, 2022

Getting to Know You

1. What are your plans for the summer? What is one accomplishment you hope to make? How will you rest? Decide how your Small Group will stay connected.

2. As we finish up our Spring Session of Small Groups, share with your group the method you use to read and understand the Bible. What devotionals have you used? How do you make time in your schedule for God? If you don't make time, what do you think makes it difficult to make this a priority in your life?

Digging Deeper

3. Read Haggai 1:2-4. In the sermon, we were encouraged to **"Stop waiting, start obeying."** To what are you saying, "The time has not yet come?" Why are you procrastinating?

4. Read Haggai 1:2 and 9. What is God calling you to prioritize in your life? What steps can you take this week to start changing your priorities? Help each other come up with one next step you can begin this week and, if willing, make plans to hold each other accountable this summer.

5. Read Ezra 4:4-5 and verses 23-24. God's people started rebuilding the temple several years before, but opposition and discouragement halted the process. What dream of yours has shattered recently? What has discouraged you in the past from accomplishing something important? Did you overcome it? If so, how? If not, what are your plans for the future?

6. Read Matthew 6:19-21 and Proverbs 30:8-9. What guidelines do you use in determining whether you're putting too much money and effort into your plans instead of God's? How does consideration of priorities fit into your budgeting decisions?

7. Read Haggai 1:13 and Haggai 2:6-9. Haggai gives God the title of "Lord Almighty" five times in the second passage. "Almighty" here can also be translated as "armies." Why do you think Haggai says "Lord Almighty" or "Lord of armies" five times in this passage? While facing life's difficulties, what does it mean to you when you think of how God is the "Lord of armies?" What does it mean to you that God says, "I am with you?"

8. What part of your spiritual life has God begun to rebuild throughout this Spring session? What role did your Small Group play in that? How long do you think this rebuilding will take place?

Next Steps

In light of this week's teaching and study, is there anything Jesus is calling you to start, stop, or keep doing?