

Small Group Questions: June 26 – “Seek First God’s Kingdom”

Read Haggai 1:1-15

1. In our passage from Haggai, the remnant of Judah have been rebuilding and restarting their national and religious life back in Jerusalem after having just returned from Babylonian exile. We ourselves, in a much different way, have emerged from pandemic exile after some two years of being apart from one another and from the world we are called to serve. In what ways and what aspects are we now starting to "rebuild" as a society and as a church?
2. Despite their circumstance of economic and political instability, the people of Jerusalem have been renovating their houses while the Temple lay in ruins. In what ways can we neglect the building of God's House and His kingdom on earth after some time apart and away from His mission and service?
3. The Spirit of God revives the spirits of the citizens and leaders of Jerusalem to begin rebuilding the Temple, and God encourages them along the way of their work: "I am with you, declares the Lord." How can we be in tune with the work of the Spirit in our lives and how can we spur one another towards the work of God's kingdom?
4. In the Sermon of the Mount, Jesus taught His followers to seek first God's kingdom and His righteousness, and God will take care of the rest for us. What does it look like to obey Jesus' command to seek the kingdom first and to believe His words that God will take care of the rest for us?