



New Faith Church  
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Bible Study Series “I CAN BE MORE”

**“Be More Involved”**

Haggai 1:1-13

**I. Be More Involved by Recognizing Your Misplaced Priorities.**

This is what the Lord Almighty says: “*These people say, ‘The time has not yet come for the Lord’s house to be built.’ [Yet] Is it time for you yourselves to dwell in your paneled houses and this temple to lie in ruins?*” Haggai 1:2 and 4

**A. God’s revealed His unhappiness with the people by referring to them as “these people,” not “my people.”;**

1. The idea of the text is to be God’s people we must be his disciples;
2. Listen to Their **excuse** for not obeying God. They said, “*The time has not yet come....*”;
3. Have you ever used this excuse? “**The timing isn’t right...**”;
4. **The question of the text is, if the time isn’t now when is it?;**
5. **The Jews had been saying, “*The timing wasn’t right,*” for sixteen years! ;**

**B. Notice that they didn’t deny that the work should be done or that they should be the ones to do it;**

1. Jesus recognized this issue and said, the Laborers are few but the vineyard is plentiful.
2. God did not take issue with the fact that they needed to put a roof over their heads;
3. So the misplaced priority in the mind of God was in regards to total neglect of rebuilding the temple;
4. Anything that displaces God is a misplaced priority...

**II. Be More Involved by Realizing That God Will Not Bless Misplaced Priorities.(5-6)**

- A. As a consequence of their excuse-making and selfish living, the people in Haggai's day experienced hardship.

1. The People were trying to figure out why everything they touched was being destroyed. And why they couldn't see success.
2. God says to these people, "*Give careful thought to your ways*" (v. 5). *Consider your ways*" (KJV);
3. This command is given five times in the book of Haggai (vv. 5, 7; 2:15, 18 (twice));
4. Somehow, they made the mistake of believing that during a **recession** was not a good time to be investing in a **capital campaign fund, to rebuild the temple....**
5. But They kept planting for bigger crops but kept having meager harvests;
6. They were living in what the health, wealth, and prosperity preachers call "**lack**.";

**B. The text teaches us that not all Lack comes from the Devil...**

1. God pointed out, it was because of their misplaced priorities that God was withholding his blessing;
2. God made no bones about pointing out that it was because their **priorities** were out of whack, he would not bless their lives...
3. **It is an indictment of misplaced priorities.**
4. God admonished them to "*give careful thought to their ways*.";
5. The text suggests that there may be areas in our lives that does not reflect the blessing of God because of our misplaced priorities;
6. Haggai says, God will never bless misplaced priorities...;
7. They were living in lack when a simple rearranging of misplaced priorities would have resulted in God's blessing;

**III. Be More Involved by Restoring Priorities To Their Proper Place (12)**

**A. The whole remnant of the people obeyed the voice of the Lord their God and the message of the prophet Haggai. (Haggai 1:12)**

1. To their credit, when the people heard that God was not blessing them because their priorities were wrong, they took steps to get their lives in order;
2. Listen to Haggai, who gave this message of the Lord to the people: "*I am with you*." declares the Lord;
3. When they prioritize the things of God he began to bless them;

**B. The Bible says, "When you take care of God he will take care of you;**

1. If David we're here, he would tell you that he prioritized God and God prioritized Him;
2. Before Jesus went to Calvary, he was teaching the multitude and the people got hungry and the disciples became anxious about what they would eat, and what they would drink.

