DISCUSSION · REFLECTION

Holes in the Purse

Week 1 · Haggai 1:1–15

When God's presence slides to the bottom of our priorities, everything else leaks, and the moment we turn back, God answers with "I am with you."

1 The people said, "The time has not yet come" (Haggai 1:2). Read Haggai 1:2–4 and Ezra 4:4. What real reasons might they have had for waiting?

2 Read Haggai 1:5–11. Verse 6 talks about a "purse with holes in it." What does God say is behind it (verse 9), and what reason does he give for wanting his house rebuilt (verse 8)?

3 God puts his own name on the drought: "I blew away," "I called for a drought." Pastor Justin said it still came from love: "The opposite of love isn't wrath. It's indifference." What does that tell you about God?

4 Haggai knew what that drought meant because God told him. Why shouldn't we read our own hard seasons, like a diagnosis, a layoff, or grief, as a verdict from God?

5 Read Haggai 1:12–15. They obeyed, God said "I am with you," God stirred their spirits, and then they went to work. What does that order tell you about how God works?

6 Jesus told about a son who came home with a speech ready, hoping to work his way back in (Luke 15:17–22). What "speeches" do people rehearse before coming back to God?

7 Read Ephesians 2:21–22. If God's house is his people now, what would it look like for us to be the most welcoming people in San Antonio?

8 What's one thing on your "when things settle down" list that's about God? Start it this week, and write down the date when you do.

FROM THIS DAY ON • WEEK 1

HOLES IN THE PURSE

Haggai 1:1–15



01 | "NOT YET" USUALLY MEANS "NOT FIRST"

God slips to the bottom of the list one delay at a time.

Haggai 1:1–4





02 | YOU CAN'T OUTWORK A HOLE IN THE PURSE

"Give careful thought to your ways."

What gets your best hours—and what gets your leftovers?

Haggai 1:5–11

A needed reminder: Hardship is not a verdict from God. Rain isn't a report card.

03 | GOD'S PRESENCE COMES BEFORE THE WORK

"I am with you."

Haggai 1:13

They turned back. God stirred their spirits. Then they began to build.

God gives himself before he gives the harvest.



04 | GOD'S HOUSE HAS A NEW ADDRESS

In Christ, we are being built together into a dwelling for God's Spirit.

God's house is his people.

Ephesians 2:21–22



YOUR NEXT STEP

Pick one thing you've been putting off with God. Start it this week. Write down the date.

You won't start alone.

Justin Hartpence • Holes in the Purse