

October 1, 2023 | Pastor Keith Krell Haggai 1:1-15 | "Ponder Your Priorities"

## **Scripture Reading**

Haggai 1:1–15 Deuteronomy 10:12; 28:1–68 Matthew 6:33–34 Luke 12:16–21 1 Thessalonians 2:13–14 Romans 13:11–14 Matthew 28:16–20

## **Study Questions**

- 1. When have you told God, "The time has not come" (1:2b)? What was the reason for delaying your obedience? Why is immediate obedience so important? How does understanding the title "the LORD of hosts" motivate you to obey? How can you ensure greater consistency in following Christ?
- 2. What are your top five *actual* priorities (1:4)? How much thought, energy, and resources do you devote to each one? Do you believe your priorities are in alignment with God's priorities for you? If not, what would it take to modify your life to better align with God's purposes? Is it even possible to maintain godly priorities and have balance in your work, family, and church involvement? Who might hold you accountable to live a balanced, yet devoted life?
- 3. Is it okay for a Christian to have and enjoy nice things (1:4–5)? Is "luxury" a sin when it comes to homes, cars, vacations, and extravagant material possessions? Where do we draw the line? If someone approached you and questioned your use of wealth, how would you respond?
- 4. What direct consequences have you endured because of personal sin and disobedience (1:6, 9–11)? Hebrews 12:5–11 teaches that God disciplines His children. When have you sensed God's hand of chastening in your life? What form did it take? How did you respond to God's discipline? If you responded positively, how have you been changed as a result of God's intervention? What testimony could you offer other Christians wrestling with obedience to God?
- 5. In 1:12, the people respond to God's Word with obedience and fear. In what area of your life do you need to submit to God? What would it look like for you to fear God? How might you be "stirred up" to build His kingdom at CBC (1:14)? In what ways might we encourage a greater level of corporate obedience and zeal for God's work at CBC?

## **Recommended Reading**

Uche Anizor, Overcoming Apathy: Gospel Hope for Those Who Struggle to Care (Crossway, 2022) Jerry Bridges, The Joy of Fearing God (NavPress, 2004) J. I. Packer, Hot Tub Religion (Tyndale, 1987)