

Running on Empty Part 2: It Matters

Objective: To encourage us to stay dedicated to Jesus as the single most important aspect of our lives.

Read together:

“Who of you is left who saw this house in its former glory? How does it look to you now? Does it not seem to you like nothing?”

Haggai 2:3

- The people building the new temple were discouraged because it didn't seem to compare to their memories of the old temple. Can you think of a time in your life when making comparisons discouraged you? Can you think of a time when making comparisons left you feeling too proud?
- Since making comparisons tends to leave us discouraged, what are some possible ways to break the habit of comparing yourself to others?

Read together:

Be strong, all you people of the land,' declares the Lord, 'and work. For I am with you'... ..my Spirit remains among you. Do not fear.'

Haggai 2:4-5

- We often think we have to depend upon ourselves to mature spiritually, but that never works. What are some ways we can practice depending on God for our spiritual maturity?

Read together:

'The glory of this present house will be greater than the glory of the former house,' says the Lord Almighty. 'And in this place I will grant peace,' declares the Lord Almighty.'

Haggai 2:9

- Haggai told the exiles that the new temple would be even greater than the old temple. He was right. Much of Jesus ministry took place in around the temple they were building. Have you ever considered the fact that your choices today are impacting people you will never meet? How does it make you feel to think about that?
 - What kind of spiritual legacy do you want to pass down to future generations? What are you doing today (or what can you start doing) that will help that legacy be realized?
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- Do you find it encouraging to know that your faithfulness today will be a blessing to others in the future? Why or Why not?

Consider this week:

- Every choice you make today has implications for tomorrow. What choices are you going to make to help ensure a legacy of spiritual maturity is passed on?

Final Thought: Choosing to dedicate your life to Jesus is easy. Living it out is hard. What choices do you need to make this week to help you stay dedicated to Jesus in your daily life..

**RUNNING
ON EMPTY**