

# Discussion Guide

**Message Title:** *Just What I Needed To Hear*

**Main Text:** Haggai 2:1–5

**Speaker:** Pastor Chad Gilligan

**Date:** July 27, 2025

## 1. If You Are Facing a Challenge... God Says, “Be Strong.”

**Scriptures:** Haggai 2:4; Ephesians 6:10; Proverbs 24:10; Isaiah 40:28–31

### Discussion Questions:

- What kinds of challenges are you currently facing that require strength?
- How do these verses show us that strength comes from God, not ourselves?
- What might it look like to “be strong in the Lord” practically?

### Follow-up Prompt:

Where in your life do you need God’s strength to overcome weakness or opposition?

### Key Takeaway:

God’s strength is available to us—especially when we feel weak. The greater the challenge, the more we need to rely on His power, not our own.

## 2. If You Need Encouragement... God Says, “Work

**Scriptures:** Haggai 2:4; 1 Chronicles 28:20

### Discussion Questions:

- Why do you think God ties encouragement to action in this passage?
- What does it look like to faithfully “do the work” even when you don’t feel like it?
- How has stepping out in obedience lifted your spirit in the past?

### Follow-up Prompt:

Is there something you’ve been putting off that God may be nudging you to start or finish?

### Key Takeaway:

Encouragement often follows obedience. When we move forward in faith, God strengthens us through the very work He’s called us to do.

### **3. If You Are Feeling Alone... God Says, “I Am With You.”**

**Scriptures:** Haggai 2:4; Matthew 28:19–20

#### **Discussion Questions:**

- How does God’s presence change the way we face loneliness or isolation?
- Why is it important to remember that God is with us in both pain and purpose?
- What is one area where you’ve experienced His presence in a powerful way?

#### **Follow-up Prompt:**

In what part of your life do you need to be reminded that God is right there with you?

#### **Key Takeaway:**

God’s presence is constant—He’s with you in the hard moments and in the mission He’s given you. You are never alone.

### **4. If You Are In Need of a Reminder... God Says, “I Covenanted With You.”**

**Scriptures:** Haggai 2:5; Numbers 23:19; Isaiah 55:10–11

#### **Discussion Questions:**

- What promise from God’s Word have you been holding onto in this season?
- How does God’s faithfulness in the past strengthen your confidence in Him today?
- What does it mean to “take God at His word” in practical terms?

#### **Follow-up Prompt:**

Is there a Scripture or promise that has carried you through a recent challenge?

#### **Key Takeaway:**

God always keeps His word. His promises are still true, still active, and still personal. You can trust what He said—He never fails.

## **5. If You Are Feeling Inadequate... God Says, “My Spirit Remains.”**

**Scriptures:** Haggai 2:5; Nehemiah 9:20; Zechariah 4:6

### **Discussion Questions:**

- When have you felt unequipped or unqualified for what God has asked you to do?
- How does knowing the Holy Spirit leads and empowers us change your confidence?
- What role does the Spirit play in giving you daily strength?

### **Follow-up Prompt:**

Where in your life do you need to rely more on the Holy Spirit than your own abilities?

### **Key Takeaway:**

You’re not alone—and you’re not expected to do it all in your own strength. God’s Spirit remains with you to guide, teach, and empower you.

## **6. If You Are Afraid... God Says, “Do Not Fear.”**

**Scriptures:** Haggai 2:5; Joshua 1:9; John 14:27

### **Discussion Questions:**

- What fears are you currently facing? How do they affect your trust in God?
- What helps you choose trust over fear in difficult moments?
- Why is “Do not fear” not just a comfort but a command?

### **Follow-up Prompt:**

What would it look like for you to step forward in faith even while feeling fear?

### **Key Takeaway:**

God’s command to “not fear” comes with His peace and His presence. We can have courage, not because of what we see—but because of who is with us.

## **Reflection & Prayer**

### **Closing Thought:**

God knows exactly what we need to hear. Whether we're facing challenges, fears, doubt, or discouragement—His Word gives us strength, direction, and peace. When we hold on to His promises, we can stand strong in any season.

### **Suggested Prayer:**

“God, thank You for speaking clearly to our hearts. Help us to be strong, to do the work You've given us, and to trust that You are with us. Thank You for Your promises and the gift of Your Spirit. Teach us to walk without fear, relying fully on You. Amen.”