



As the discussion leader, here are a few things to keep in mind for your Life Group: • **Pray** for your group discussion time! • **Review** your notes from Sunday's message and familiarize yourself with the discussion questions prior to your group meeting. • **Choose** a few questions from the guide which you feel will generate the most discussion in your group. For questions with multiple parts, answer the first part before reading the next part to the group. These questions are designed to build on the answer of the previous part before moving on.

### Getting to Know Me

Have you ever been part of a conversation where you had to listen rather than speak? Describe the experience.

### Exploring the Word – Haggai 2:1-23

1. As you listened to the message, what points stood out?
2. Read Haggai 2:1-3. In these verses, Haggai asks the people if they remember what the temple used to look like. Which temple is he referring to (refer to 1 Kings 6)? Why is it important to remember what has happened in the past?
3. Read Haggai 2:4-9. What reason does Haggai give for the people to be strong and to not be afraid? Reflect upon the importance of the Holy Spirit's presence in your life.
4. Read Haggai 2:10-14. Why does God expect us to be holy (refer to Leviticus 11:44-45)? Why are relationships important in our pursuit of holiness?
5. Read Haggai 2:15-23. Why does God promise to extend his blessings to the people? How can keeping our eyes on Jesus help us to be obedient and persevere?
6. What have you learned from the book of Haggai about the importance of listening in relationships?



### Haggai 2:1-23

#### I. Listening through remembrance (v. 1-3)

- Remembering where we came from helps to maintain our identity.
- We cannot change our identity.
- In crisis moments we either choose to remember who we are and work to grow, or we choose to forget and give up.
- Remembering helps us to face our past instead of run from it.

#### II. Listening through presence (v. 4-9)

- God is always present by his Spirit.
- God's Spirit is present to supply us with enthusiasm and strength.
- God's nature is Trinitarian – Father, Son, Holy Spirit.
- If God does not exist in Trinitarian form, then his nature is power rather than love and therefore imperfect.

#### III. Learning through listening (v. 10-14)

- Learning to listen frees us from the insecurity to always be talking.
- Learning to listen frees us from the pride that prevents asking questions.
- God created us to learn and grow in community.
- We cannot really know God or anyone in isolation.

#### IV. Listening through reflection (v. 15-23)

- Reflection helps us to listen to the past in order to learn for the future.
- Busyness is an obstacle between God and us.
- Reflection is understanding, not living in the past.
- Love is other-focused regardless of the other's performance.