

Talk It Over

Questions are prepared each week by the teaching pastor and are designed to prompt insights, questions, and the life experience of each listener. If these are used in a group immediately following the talk, it would be much the same as what was done in Israel at the time of the early church. They will also be useful to individuals who want a deeper understanding of the message.

HAGGAI: Life in Perspective Week 1

1. Why was the temple important in ancient Judaism? What did the temple do or represent? Why was it of concern to Haggai that the people of Judah had not yet rebuilt the temple?
2. What does Haggai imply was the result of the people not rebuilding the temple? What does Haggai suggest is happening because the people have not prioritized the temple's re-construction (read the rest of chapter 1 for more explanation)?
3. How do traditions such as weekly worship keep us connected to or aware of a larger perspective? What other traditions or practices help us do this? Can you give examples from your own life of how engagement with certain rituals, traditions or practices helps keep you connected to God's larger reality and purpose?
4. Can you give examples of what your life has been like when you have not been engaged with God's greater purposes or reality?
5. Referencing Brian's drawing at the end of the sermon, how does maintaining the core or the center of our lives affect those realities on the outside of the circle? Do you agree that we often address the outside of the circle without addressing the core? What is the problem with this approach?
6. If you were to evaluate your life on a "scale of connectedness" to God's greater reality and purpose, where would you place yourself:
 - -regularly connected
 - -reasonably connected
 - -sporadically connected
 - -rarely connected
7. What practices would help you improve your connection level?

