



Build Your Kingdom Here
Remembering the Past (Haggai 2:1-9)
By Pastor David Hillis, 11 June 2017

BIG IDEA: Anything worth building in life will come with challenges and demand something of us. When we face setbacks, our past experiences are the building blocks for the future.

No matter our age or stage in life, we are all in the process of building something. There will be times when our hopes, our dreams for the future seem to be stuck, and we wonder what we are missing, or if we should give up. What do you do in those times when the obstacles seem to be insurmountable?

1. Remember the past. (v3, 9)

- When we are faced with seemingly insurmountable challenges, God calls us to reflect on the past in these moments. Why?
- It's so that we can remember God's faithfulness and remember the time when God first put that passion, that burden or call on our hearts, and how unmistakable it was. It's also so that we can remember those times along the way when things seemed so challenging, yet God was faithful to do for us what we could not do for ourselves. It also allows us to remember that God hasn't changed, and the same God who did that then can help us overcome this now.

2. Remembering makes us courageous. (v4, 5; Joshua 1:9; Ezra 6:7-8)

- Getting rid of fear keeps us from just doing what is easy or safe when God wants more. We can miss out on it if we don't step out and trust God's leading.
- God wants to remind us of His faithfulness, over and over again, as He calls us to be strong and courageous.
- With the obstacles that you are facing today, what do you need to take the time to think back and remember? How can those memories be the building blocks God uses to give you faith and courage for what lies ahead?

3. Courage motivates us to get to work. (v5, 9)

- If you are faced with anxiety and needing to find peace, take some time to be with God, and remember. Go back through old journals, look through photos of the milestones God has brought you through, and talk to some people who were there. Let God fill you with courage for what lies ahead.

Next Step

Remember this week...what have you seen God do at Grace? What have you seen God do in your life, to give you courage to do what He has called you to do?

FOR MY PERSONAL TIME WITH GOD THIS WEEK:

1. Read Haggai and see the work God was calling His people then to do. Pay special attention to Haggai 2:1-9. Why do you think God's people doubted his promises and his faithfulness? What are the different promises God makes to his people?
2. Take some time to remember — God's promises, and stories of God's faithfulness to walk with you through them. What are some promises that God has made to you? Why is remembering God's promises and resting in his faithfulness essential? What happens in your life when you forget God's promises and doubt God's faithfulness?
3. Read Deuteronomy 31 & Joshua 1 and consider the seemingly insurmountable obstacles that laid before Joshua when he was called to lead in kingdom work. Are there times when you have struggle to obey God because you fear that you would not have the necessary resources?
4. Pray about the decision laying ahead of us as a community this month, to expand and improve our campus here for future ministry. Ask God to give you clarity and peace, even if it means strength and courage, and perhaps personal sacrifice, will be involved. Speak to leaders at Grace about any questions or concerns you might have that they could answer.

Prayer This Week: Refugees

Pray for Goshen Ministries and for immigration to take place legally and honorably. May the authorities act wisely, Christians to open their homes and neighborhoods in helpful ways and for the gospel to be heard, drawing many to Christ.