



**Build Your Kingdom Here**  
**Listening Carefully to God (Haggai 2:10-19)**  
By Pastor David Hillis, 18 June 2017

**BIG IDEA: Our best ideas and decisions in life aren't the best until they have been submitted to God.**

- In order to fully hear God speaking to us, we can't just tell Him what we are deciding to do as we do it, but we need to take the time to pause, to listen. We need to make space for God to speak into our lives and to truly submit our best ideas or plans to Him.
- God gives each of us a brain, a powerful tool that we can use to make wise decisions, but He didn't make it foolproof or infallible. God didn't want us to be totally self-sufficient, but to find our sufficiency (our value, our worth, our wisdom) through a relationship with Him. We are reminded of this in Proverbs 3:5-8.

**God's Principle of Proximity** (v11-16; Amos 5:14; Jeremiah 29:13)

- Being around Godly people does not give us a relationship with God, but being around ungodly people can push us further away from God.

**Wisdom Comes from Listening in Submission** (v17)

- We will hear from God, our best ideas can come, and the best decisions in our lives will be made when we offer them up to God, when we pray and honestly submit them to Him.

**Next Step**

*Am I carefully listening to God for direction in my life? To make sure my plans are His, and my priorities match His?*

**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 2:10-19. Why do you think God's people minimized the importance of prayer and listening to God in this story? How can you relate in your own life?
2. Read Proverbs 3:5-8 and Jeremiah 29:13. What do these Scriptures say about listening to God? What are they saying to you?
3. Pastor Dave shared this week from Haggai what he called God's Principle of Proximity: Being around Godly people doesn't give you a relationship with God, but being around ungodly people can push you farther away from God. Do you see any ways in your life where this possibly applies? What is God leading you to do to take one step closer to Him?
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 FOR THE WEEK: Fathers**

*Pray that fathers, everywhere, will honorably serve and care for their families and that children will see the character of the heavenly Father in the lives of their dads. May they be filled with grace and patience to handle all situations in loving ways.*