Faith Off The Side Lines

Greg Kline · Haggai 1:1–11

INTRODUCTION

- What we find in the book of Haggai is a bunch of people who, if they had faith, which they were not showing, had left their faith on the sidelines.
- Because of my house that lies in ruins, while each of you busies himself with his own house.
- What we have to focus on this morning is to consider our ways and to take our faith off the sidelines and put it into the glory and service of our God.

1 Would Jesus Prioritize Like I Do?

Luke 12:13–21; Matthew 26:39

- Take care and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.
- So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich towards God.
- His treasure was on earth. It was not in heaven.
- What happens is we start to fill our time with the other things first and try to put God through the cracks.
- The truth of the matter is, God has to be our big rock. We have to put spiritual things first.
- That work will only get done if we put it first, because when we fill our jar with the pebbles and sand, there will be no room for the big rocks later.

2 Have I Lost My Focus on Christ?

Matthew 14:22–33

- But when he saw the wind, he was afraid. And beginning to sink, he cried out, Lord, save me.
- Sometimes the distractions are things that frighten us, that make us afraid, that pull us away from God.
- It may not be that the pleasures of this life are what we're focusing on. Maybe it's the turbulence that this life so often throws at us.
- Our God will never desert his people. Our God has shown time and again he will be there for us. The only one who breaks the connection is me.
- My focus has to be entirely on what would Jesus want from my day today.

3 Will I Begin Showing My Faith Today?

Haggai 1:12–15; Matthew 14:29–30

- With all the remnant of the people, obeyed the voice of the Lord their God and the words of Haggai the prophet.
- Within the month, the people were up and working on the house of the Lord. They showed their faith.

- It's about taking action. It's about stepping up and responding to the commands of God, recognizing that God is worth our effort, God is worth our everything.
- Peter had the courage, the conviction, and the zeal to get out of the boat and walk towards Jesus.
- We have to get our faith off the sidelines, out of textbooks, out of Bible classes, and into our real world.

THE CHALLENGE

Will you begin showing your faith today? Get out of the boat. Rebuild the temple of the Lord. Put God first, that He may glory in it, and that He may take pleasure in our service and our sacrifice in His kingdom.

MY NOTES