

HAGGAI - A Story of Priorities

1. MY HOUSE FIRST PRIORITY Haggai 1:1-5

Money promises what only God can provide.

Security / Freedom / Power / Significance

TWO MINDSETS:

The bag: not enough Haggai 1:6

The barn: infinitely more than enough Deuteronomy 8:8

2. GOD FIRST PRIORITY Haggai 2:18-19

I will give God my first and my best so he can bless the rest. Leviticus 27:30

THE BLESSINGS OF THE TITHE

Tithing teaches me to put God first. Deuteronomy 14:23

Tithing increases my faith in God. Malachi 3:10b

Tithing provides for God's work through His church.
Malachi 3:10a

GOD FIRST PRIORITY requires faith to give first. If you give last it doesn't require faith. Proverbs 3:9-10 Romans 5:8

NEXT STEPS

Use these study questions to turn a message into a conversation.

GOING DEEPER

Read Acts 20:35, Proverbs 11:24-25 and 2 Corinthians 9:6-11.

In these verses we learn that the key to a blessed life is being generous in giving to others.

Describe a time when you gave generously. How did that act of giving make you feel and what did you learn from that experience?

Read Haggai 1:5-6.

This verse illustrates the bag mindset people have towards giving—feeling like they never have enough.

What are some of the reasons that keep you from giving generously?

What can you do to overcome these excuses?

Read Proverbs 3:9-10 and Luke 16:10-13.

These verses illustrate the barn mindset and being faithful with the infinite blessings God has given us.

Describe what generosity looks like in your life. Which mindset do you currently exhibit?

Why do you think that is?

What are some specific areas in your life that you feel God is calling you to be more generous than you have before?

What are some specific ways that God has blessed your life?

What are some changes you're willing to make to be more blessed?

Read Matthew 6:19-24 and Ecclesiastes 5:10.

These verses show us that we cannot serve both God and money, and that there is no satisfaction in the love of money.

Describe a time in your life where you placed your trust in money and not in God. How did the situation ultimately turn out? What did you learn from this experience?

Read Leviticus 27:30, Deuteronomy 14:23 and Malachi 3:7-11.

These verses emphasize the importance of giving the tithe to God and returning to God what is His.

What does tithing currently look like in your own life?

Is it something you do well or is it something you struggle with?

How have you seen your life blessed because of your tithing?

How have you seen others blessed because of your tithing?

How has tithing affected your faith and relationship with God?

What things have you learned about God and His blessings?

Read Matthew 23:23 and Proverbs 3:9-10.

These verses instruct us to give to God His tithe first rather than waiting to give it last.

It requires faith to give first. If you give last, it doesn't require faith. Describe a time when you gave first. What blessings resulted from your act of faith?

TAKING IT HOME

Take the three-month tithe challenge

1. Commit to put God as your first priority.
 2. Trust God by committing to return to God 10% of your income for 90 days through giving on Sunday or online or by mail.
 3. Record what God has done in your Life for 90 days. Share the blessing by sharing your story.
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