

# This Old House: Mark Your Calendar

Haggai 2:10-23

1. Spend a few minutes discussing the sermon. Were there things that jumped out at you, things you disagreed with, or things you didn't understand? Discuss your honest feelings with your group members.
2. What kinds of things (objects, places, people) *first* come to mind when you hear the word "holy?" Why?
3. In its simplest form, the word "holy" means "set-apart." We might say "different," "in a category all by itself," or even "like no one or nothing else." With this basic definition in mind, in what ways is God the most holy? How does this change the way you view the term, if it does at all?
4. Read Haggai 2:12-13. What is God saying to his people through these questions? How can we learn from them?
5. How can holy things fool us into thinking we are being made holy? Along these lines, what can we learn from Jesus' words to the religious leaders in John 5:39-40?
6. Through the prophet Haggai, God asks his people to think carefully how life has been without him. Looking back at past (or current) seasons of life that you've lived without God, can you relate to this? How have things been?
7. Are there *areas of life* (marriage, workplace, certain friendships, hobbies, etc.) that you've intentionally or unintentionally left God out of? How has it been?
8. Interestingly, God issues a bold challenge to his people: "Mark your calendar—remember this day that you turned to me—and see how I will bless you." Are you willing to take this challenge, either with your entire life or an area of life?

Haggai shows us that God wants to be part of our lives, that life is better when he is, and that he'll do whatever he needs to do to get our attention when we forget that.

BONUS: Read and discuss verses 20-23. How does this tie in to the overall message of Haggai?