



# TALK IT OVER

**Don't Forget  
(Haggai 2:10-19)**

## How to use Talk It Over:

Talking through the message during the week helps you and your group turn what God is saying to you into action steps. Begin with the key questions, add any optional scriptures and questions if needed, and then wrap up by deciding on your next steps.

## The Main Idea:

If life "isn't working", the first thing to evaluate is your relationship with God.

## Key Questions:

- Think carefully about your life. What activities, behaviors or pursuits might be "defiling" your life right now-- preventing you from experiencing the life God wants you to have?
- When life "isn't working," what do you typically do to solve the problem? Where do you look for answers and solutions to life's challenges? Be honest!
- Refer back to Haggai 1:12-15. What did the Israelites do to begin to experience God's blessing? What decision on the part of the Israelites is God responding to when he says in 2:19 "From this day on I will bless you"?
- In 2:17 God says the Israelites still did not turn to him even though he withheld his blessing from them. What would God say to you right now? Is there an area of your life where God is trying to get your attention by withholding his blessing from you?

**Optional Questions:** If needed, include one or more of these questions to extend your conversation.

- In 2:18 God challenges the Israelites to "give careful thought" to what has happened to them. Do you have a regular practice of "giving careful thought" to your life and experiences? How do you do this?
- What is the point of 2:12-13? What is God trying to show the Israelites by using the example of "consecrated" and "defiled" objects?
- How does God's blessing come to us as a result of our obedience? In what way is obedience the direct path of God's blessing? Can you give an example of an area of life where obedience to God's instructions results directly in his blessing?

## Next Steps:

- Think carefully about the areas of your life that disappoint or frustrate you. List those areas on a piece of paper. Ask God each day this week to show you how you can experience his blessing in these areas. Listen carefully for what he might be trying to tell you.

## DAILY BIBLE READINGS

In Haggai's day, the Israelites were instructed to rebuild the temple as the means of living out God's plan for their lives. Jesus taught his followers (you and me) how to live out God's plan for their lives in the Sermon on the Mount. Take time this week to read the opening section of this sermon as a way of discovering how God wants us to live.

Day 1 Matthew 5:1-12 (NLT Life Application Study Bible p. 1545)

Day 2 Matthew 5:13-16

Day 3 Matthew 5:17-26

Day 4 Matthew 5:27-32

Day 5 Matthew 5:33-42

Day 6 Matthew 5:43-48

Day 7 Matthew 6:1-8

Have a comment or feedback related to small groups? Email [GroupLife@mclan church.org](mailto:GroupLife@mclan church.org).

## Bible Reading Background

The Sermon on the Mount recorded in Matthew chapters 5-7 was Jesus' most comprehensive presentation of what it means to live life behind his lead. In chapter 5 Jesus repeatedly compares what the Old Testament law (the Ten Commandments and other laws) required with what following him requires. Jesus uses this comparison to show that following him is not simply about following a set of rules, but instead involves authentically trying to live the way he wants us to live. This is the way we experience the joy-filled and purposeful life he offers. Authentically living as Jesus wants us to live is the means of experiencing his blessing.