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## ❖SERMON NOTES ❖

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Sunday, August 21, 2016

### **“PUTTING FIRST THINGS FIRST”**

(Haggai 1:2-9)

The Book of Haggai, the second shortest in the Old Testament, communicates this message: Put first things first. As we move into the fall, how can we set our priorities to make a consistent difference in our world and honor our God?

**1. Stop making \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 2).**

**2. Cease being \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 3-4).**

**3. Don’t miss \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 5-6).**

**4. Take time \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 5, 7).**

**How will we know that we have put first things first?**

**A. We are active \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 8)**

**B. God is \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 8)**

C. God \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 13).

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### **“PUTTING FIRST THINGS FIRST”** (Haggai 1:2-9)

#### **1. Stop making excuses (v. 2).**

*“Thus says the Lord of hosts: These people say the time has not yet come to rebuild the house of the Lord”* (Haggai 1:2, ESV).

*“But Martha was distracted with much serving”* (Luke 10:40, ESV).

*“All our busy rushing, ends in nothing”* (Psalm 39:6, NLT).

#### **2. Cease being selfish (v. 3-4).**

*“Then the word of the Lord came by the hand of Haggai the prophet, “Is it a time for you yourselves to dwell in your paneled houses, while this house lies in ruins?”* (Haggai 1:3-4, ESV).

#### **3. Don’t miss God’s blessings (v. 5-6).**

*“Now, therefore, thus says the Lord of hosts: Consider your ways. You have sown much, and harvested little. You eat, but you never have enough; you drink, but you never have your fill. You clothe yourselves, but no one is warm. And he who earns wages does so to put them into a bag with holes”* (Haggai 1:5-6, ESV).

*“But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you”* (Matthew 6:33, ESV).

#### **4. Take time to evaluate (v. 5, 7).**

*“Consider your ways”* (Haggai 1:5, 7, ESV).

**How will we know that we have put first things first?**

**A. We are active in the right things (v. 8)**

*“Go up to the hills and bring wood and build the house, that I may take pleasure in it and that I may be glorified, says the Lord”* (Haggai 1:8, ESV).

**B. God is glorified (v. 8)**

**C. God blesses us (v. 13).**

*“I am with you”* (1:13, ESV).