

Message Discussion Guide CHRIST OUR PRIEST AND KING

The Church at Brook Hills

Dr. David Platt

September 26, 2010

Haggai/Zechariah

This guide is to help you facilitate discussion with your Small Group. Use it as a resource to lead your group in discovering and owning the truths of God's Word. There may be questions you do not want to use and there may be instances where you just want to focus on a particular point or truth. Some questions may bring out emotions and cause people to dwell on their relationship with God. Your role is to facilitate this experience not to complete the discussion guide. Use this as a flexible teaching tool not a rigid teaching task list.

Connect . . .

Use one or both of the following options to introduce the discussion time to follow.

Option 1

Think of a time when you started on a project, and then stopped for a period of time (maybe forever). Why did you stop? What interfered with or distracted you from your progress? What did your stopping say about the importance of the project? As you look at the books of Haggai and Zechariah, lead your group to consider the importance of the gospel and God's faithfulness in beginning this "project" of redemption AND bringing it to completion in Christ.

Option 2

Only by God's Spirit could Zechariah have prophesied in such detail 500 years before Jesus Christ came. Ask your group: How have you seen God work out details in your life for your best and His glory? Did you have control over these circumstances? Could you have planned these things? How has God surprised you?

Review the Message . . .

CHRIST OUR PRIEST AND KING Haggai and Zechariah

Restoration for God's People in Jerusalem...

- The Word to God's people...
 - Repent of sin.
 - In the fear of God.
 - By the Spirit of God.
 - Renew your strength.
 - For the building of God's temple.
- The temple among God's people...
 - A picture of God's presence.
 - The people were isolated from God.
 - A picture of God's promises.
 - The people were ignoring God's Word.
 - A picture of God's peace.
 - The people were impure before God.
 - A picture of God's purpose.

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- The people were indifferent to God's glory.
- The leaders of God's people...
 - Joshua: The high priest.
 - Responsible for the cleanliness of God's people.
 - Zerubbabel: The governor/king.
 - Responsible for the construction of God's temple.

Discussion . . .

- Read Haggai 1:1–15. What was the people's primary sin?
- What is the fear of the Lord? (v. 12) Why does fear of God result in obedience?
- Read Zechariah 4:6 and Haggai 1:13–14. Who stirs up repentance in the people's hearts? By whose strength do the people repent and begin rebuilding the temple again?
- What did the temple signify or symbolize for the people of God?
- What did their lack of interest in rebuilding the temple show about their hearts? What did they value?
- Read Haggai 1:1; 2:14; and Zechariah 4:8–9. Who were the two leaders of Israel at this time? What were their roles? Read 1 Chronicles 3:19 to learn more about Zerubbabel and his ancestry.

Application . . .

- What/who convicts people of sin? How does change occur in people's hearts?
- On a daily basis, do we rely on our strength or God's strength? Why? How?
- For what purposes will God give us His strength? In light of that, what should we be directing our strength, time, and resources toward?
- Is there something you're neglecting to which God wants you to return?

Redemption for God's People in Jesus...

- The leader of God's people...
 - Jesus is the coming priest.
 - He will live sinlessly.
 - He will die sacrificially.
 - The shepherd will be struck.
 - The sheep will be scattered.
 - Jesus takes responsibility for cleansing God's people (even those who kill him).
 - Jesus is the coming king.
 - He will be righteous.
 - He will be victorious.
 - He will be gentle.
 - He will bring peace to the nations.

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- He will possess _____ power _____ over all nations.
- Jesus takes responsibility for _____ ruling _____ God's people (even those who defy him).

Discussion . . .

- Read Zechariah 3:1–10; also read Jeremiah 23:5 and Isaiah 11:1. Who is the Branch to come? How does His ancestry from David indicate the Branch will be both priest and king?
- Read Zechariah 12:10. Who has been pierced? Read John 19:37. How does this prophecy show Christ is divine?
- Read Zechariah 13:7 and Matthew 26:31. Now read Zechariah 13:1. Who is the One to cleanse (save) the people from their sin? How does Jesus connect the prophecies in Zechariah 12:10 and 13:7 through Zechariah 13:1?
- Read Zechariah 6:9–13. Again, we see evidence of a priest who is also a king. Did priests normally sit on God's throne? Why not? Read Hebrews 1:3 and 10:11–12. How does Zechariah's prophecy now make sense in light of Jesus' death for us?
- Read Zechariah 9:9–10; Matthew 21:4–5; and Luke 19:38. When would a king ride on a donkey? How did Jesus bring peace to the nations?
- How is Jesus, the coming king, vastly different from the kings of Judah and Israel?

Application . . .

- How is it comforting to know that Jesus is both our priest and king?
 - How can a greater understanding of what Jesus has done for us increase our love for Him?
 - What kind of shepherd lays down his life for his sheep?
 - Zechariah wrote approximately 500 years before Jesus was born. How can the accuracy of his Spirit-revealed prophecies encourage us in our daily walk with God? Who holds the future? Who is faithful even when we are faithless?
 - What is attractive about the qualities of Jesus' kingship?
 - Over whom does Jesus rule? Have you submitted yourself to His rule?
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- The temple among God's people...
 - Jesus _____ reveals _____ the presence of God.
 - He embodies God's dwelling with His people.
 - Jesus _____ fulfills _____ the promises of God.
 - He proves God's faithfulness to His people.
 - Jesus _____ brings _____ the peace of God.
 - He exhibits God's favor before His people.
 - Jesus _____ accomplishes _____ the purpose of God.
 - He proclaims God's glory to all peoples.

Discussion . . .

- Read Haggai 2:9; Matthew 1:21–23; John 1:14. How is Haggai's prophecy fulfilled in

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Jesus? How is Jesus greater than the temple? How did Jesus reveal the presence of God?

- How did Jesus fulfill the promises of God?
- Read Matthew 3:16–17. How did Jesus bring peace between God and man?
- Read Matthew 4:15–16. How does this verse show that Jesus' mission is for all peoples?

Application . . .

- How do we enter into God's presence today?
 - Is God as true to His promises today as He was yesterday?
 - How can a person be at peace with God?
 - Have the purposes of God been accomplished in full? What is left to be done?
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- The Word to God's people...
 - Flee from your sin!
 - In the fear of God's holiness .
 - By the power of God's Spirit .
 - Follow after your Savior!
 - For the advancement of God's kingdom .

Discussion . . .

- Read Matthew 4:17–19. How did Jesus begin His ministry? What was His message for the people?
- What was His call to Simon and Andrew?

Application . . .

- What is Jesus' message for us today? How do we repent of our sins?
- What is Jesus' call to us today? Is the call toward a building or a kingdom? Of what does this kingdom consist?