

SERMON NOTES Sunday 16 November

sunnysidechurch

Building Together: a question of priorities

Bible passages: Haggai 1.1-15 and Luke 12.22-34

Introduction

- Building Together: building relationships with God and one another; all got a role in building his Church
- What we do with time and money will reflect our priorities
- Haggai: opens on 29th August 520 BC. People returned to rebuild Temple but work stopped

God challenged their priorities

- God not blessed their harvest because wants them to question their priorities
- God says: 'give careful thought to your ways' (1.7)

Response

- Take time (almost a month) to hear and reflect
- Response general (their hearts were changed - they obeyed God and feared him) and specific (practical - started rebuilding the Temple)

Building Together

- 'I am with you' declares the Lord Almighty (1.13)
- Work together: empowers them all to build his Temple

Conclusion

- What does God invite you to 'give careful thought to' today?
- How will you respond in your heart and practically
- What might we build together?

Some questions to discuss

1. Can you think of a time when you have felt challenged by God?
2. Read Haggai 1.1-15. What do you notice?
3. Why do you think the Bible includes so many specific details about time, place and people?
4. What can cause God to slip down our priorities?
5. In your experience, what does it look like for you to 'give careful thought' to your ways?
6. Read Luke 12.22-34. How do Jesus' words deepen your understanding of Haggai 1?
7. God's invitation is for us to build together. What might he be asking you to build in your life and us to build at Sunnyside?
8. Is there one thing that you are taking away from these passages? Is there something you need to do in response? It might be something to pray about, something to think more about, something God wants you to talk to someone about or something he wants you to do. Make a note of it so you don't forget!

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.
(Luke 12.34)

Why not spend some time thanking God for his blessings and ask him to help you know his presence and powering this week?

Revd Rebecca Fardell