



Life Guide:

applying God's Word to life

“Work! For I am with you” September 23-25, 2023

Haggai 2:1-5

¹ On the twenty-first day of the seventh month, the word of the Lord came through the prophet Haggai: ² “Speak to Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, to Joshua son of Jozadak,¹ the high priest, and to the remnant of the people. Ask them, ³ ‘Who of you is left who saw this house in its former glory? How does it look to you now? Does it not seem to you like nothing? ⁴ But now be strong, Zerubbabel,’ declares the Lord. ‘Be strong, Joshua son of Jozadak, the high priest. Be strong, all you people of the land,’ declares the Lord, ‘and work. For I am with you,’ declares the Lord Almighty. ⁵ ‘This is what I covenanted with you when you came out of Egypt. And my Spirit remains among you. Do not fear.’

1. Share at least one thing you know about Thailand.
2. What percentage of Thai people are Christians? How does that compare to the United States?
3. In Haggai's day, what task did God give to the people of Judah (Read Haggai 1:2-8)?
4. After one month on the job, people were experiencing disappointment. Why? (cf. Haggai 2:3)

5. Can you think of a task that you've invested time in—only to be disappointed with the results?

6. When we achieve disappointing results from doing something that God commanded us to do, what might we be tempted to think about God?

7. God re-energized Israel's building project by promising the people, “I am with you.” How do you know that God is with you? (List as many as possible.)

8. The temple built in Haggai's day wasn't as glorious as Solomon's temple, but later it became the place for miracles greater than the people could have ever expected. In what way? (cf. Luke 2:27-32, 46-49; Matt. 27:51)

9. Can you think of a task that you initially found hard/discouraging, but later God blessed beyond your expectations?

10. Agree/disagree: If God is with us, he will bless the work we do for him.