

FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 19, 2020



BIBLE STORY:

Haggai

BIBLE VERSE:

Psalm 40:8

BABIES—PRESCHOOL TEXT TRUTH:

God's work is important.

KIDS TEXT TRUTH:

God should be most important in our lives. (YK)

God should be our number one priority. (OK)

ADULT CORE PASSAGE:

Proverbs 14:8-15

FAMILY MEMORY VERSE:

Proverbs 12:22

FAMILY READING PLAN:

SUNDAY: *Proverbs 21:1-15*

MONDAY: *Proverbs 21:16-31*

TUESDAY: *Proverbs 22:1-16*

WEDNESDAY: *Proverbs 22:17-29*

THURSDAY: *Proverbs 23:1-18*

FRIDAY: *Proverbs 23:19-35*

SATURDAY: *Proverbs 24:1-14*

FAMILY BIBLE EXPLORATION

Share these points as you study *Haggai* and *Proverbs* together as a family:



- **Who was Haggai?** The prophecies of Habakkuk and Zephaniah had been fulfilled. Judah had been taken captive to Babylon for 70 years. King Cyrus, in the year 539 BC, gave the captives in Babylon the choice to return to Jerusalem. The people departed and returned to Jerusalem—fulfilling Zephaniah's prophecy of a return—where they rebuilt the foundation of God's house. For 20 years, however, that is all they did to honor God. God sent the prophet Haggai to motivate the people to finish the work.
- **To build or not to build?** For 20 years the people were concerned with building their own homes and the city had neglected the temple, the place where God designated He would meet with His people. Judah was doing well but the preceding years had seen crops fail and other hardships. Haggai told the people that these things were happening because the people were not worried about God's house. God wanted the temple rebuilt so He would once again have a place on earth where He could dwell with His people. Haggai encouraged Zerubbabel to send workers to the forests to gather wood so the temple could be rebuilt.
- **Heed the word.** Haggai is a prophet to whom the people listened. When Haggai encouraged Zerubbabel to send workers, Zerubbabel did just that. The people went right to work and completed the temple. When the temple was completed, worship began. While Zerubbabel's temple was not as grand and glorious as the one Solomon had built, God promised, through Haggai, that this temple's final glory would be greater than Solomon's.
- **Wise living leads to contentment.** Solomon shared his wisdom again in *Proverbs 14* and encouraged the people to choose wise living. Solomon shared that wise people seek to understand things instead of blindly following. Godly wisdom brings joy, even in the face of tough times. Judah learned through Haggai's message that following godly wisdom would lead to their contentment and a renewed relationship with God.