

GOD KEEPS HIS PROMISES

God Calling

Spend a few minutes responding to the following questions.

1. What is the primary way you communicate with your family? your friends?
2. What is the primary way you communicate with God?
3. How does God communicate with you? What examples can you think of from your life? from Scripture?

HAGGAI 2:1-9 (NRSV)

In the second year of King Darius, 1 in the seventh month, on the twenty-first day of the month, the word of the Lord came by the prophet Haggai, saying:

- 2 Speak now to Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and to the remnant of the people, and say,
- 3 Who is left among you that saw this house in its former glory? How does it look to you now? Is it not in your sight as nothing?
- 4 Yet now take courage, O Zerubbabel, says the Lord; take courage, O Joshua, son of Jehozadak, the high priest; take courage, all you people of the land, says the Lord; work, for I am with you, says the Lord of hosts,
- 5 according to the promise that I made you when you came out of Egypt. My spirit abides among you; do not fear.
- 6 For thus says the Lord of hosts: Once again, in a little while, I will shake the heavens and the earth and the sea and the dry land;
- 7 and I will shake all the nations, so that the treasure of all nations shall come, and I will fill this house with splendor, says the Lord of hosts.
- 8 The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, says the Lord of hosts.
- 9 The latter splendor of this house shall be greater than the former, says the Lord of hosts; and in this place I will give prosperity, says the Lord of hosts.

KEY VERSE: *This house will be more glorious than its predecessor, says the Lord of heavenly forces. I will provide prosperity in this place, says the Lord of heavenly forces. — Haggai 2:9 (CEB)*

THE MESSAGE

● In the Bible verses, circle every time that God makes a promise. Then answer the following questions.

1. What happened in the Bible verses? What questions do you have about the story? _____

2. What does God want the people to do? _____

3. Why haven't the Israelites already done what God wants them to do?

4. What does God promise the people? _____

POETIC PROCESSING

A *haiku* is a Japanese style of poetry that has five syllables in the first and last lines and seven syllables in the second line. The poem does not have to rhyme.

Write a haiku that will help you remember who God is and your relationship to God.

5 SYLLABLES

7 SYLLABLES

5 SYLLABLES

BUILDING YOUR LIFE

Draw a big circle in the space below, then a medium circle inside of it, and a small circle at the center. (1) In the outer circle, write activities you do every day; (2) In the middle circle, write your most frequent thoughts; (3) In the center circle, state your priority in life.

- Are you happy with how your “temple” is constructed? Why or why not?

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- How could you construct your life to be more focused on God?
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GENEROUS LOVE

Write below a brief reminder of your responsibilities for serving your church or community in the coming week.