

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Part 1: “You’re Totally Incapable” (vv. 10–14)

1. Why do you think God wanted His people to realize that their efforts to build the temple were “unclean”?
2. In what ways do you see “self-reliance” showing up in your Christian life—whether in pride (“I’ve got this”) or in despair (“I’ll never get this right”)?
3. How does starting each day with the mindset “I can do nothing apart from Christ” (John 15:5) practically shape your prayer life, priorities, or expectations?

Part 2: “I Am Gracious” (vv. 15–19)

4. Haggai’s audience hadn’t returned to God, yet He still said, “From this day on I will bless you.” What does that teach us about God’s character—and how does that confront our instinct to “earn” His favor?
5. John Newton once wrote, “You are not called to buy but to beg.” What might it look like to live as a “beggar of grace” rather than a “spender of effort”?
6. Think about an area in your life where you feel stuck or frustrated. Could God be using that to drive you to deeper dependence on Him? What would it mean to “despair of self” there and cling to His grace?

Part 3: “I Will Win” (vv. 20–23)

7. God’s final word through Haggai was to Zerubbabel—a promise of victory and a coming King. How does that help you face a world that often seems opposed to God’s purposes?
8. The sermon said the gospel is political because it declares that Jesus is King. How should that truth affect how we relate to earthly powers, politics, and cultural pressures today?
9. Zerubbabel’s line ultimately led to Jesus, the true temple and King. How does seeing Jesus as both temple (God with us) and King (God reigning over us) deepen your worship or confidence in Him?