

Dear Friend:

It seems we have spent a lot of time lately around church talking about and listening to things about 600 BC-440 BC. This Sunday will be the last message in a series from the Minor Prophets (though we will continue to look at the prophets in the class Kirk McVay is teaching....40 Prophecies About Jesus). The title of the message this Sunday is: "What Revival Requires". The message will have a double application: to our own lives and to the life of the church.

Haggai was one of the last prophets of the Old Testament. He is on the scene for a very short period of time: August-December of 520 BC. His role assigned by God was very specific: "Speak messages of revival". The people had grown spiritually lax and ignored the rebuilding of the church (the Temple). Haggai told the people that revival required 3 things....First, revival requires us to change our priorities. If spiritual stagnation has set-in, if we have not seen or been a part of a move of God in a long time it is quite likely God has not been the #1 priority in our life for a while. The Jewish people had put building the Temple on hold for 16 years while they built their own houses and shops. Second, revival requires us to change plans. You see, when God is not first in our priorities he is not first in our plans either. The Jews had a plan to build the temple sometime- it just wasn't at the present time. God said: "Change your plans-do it now!". Third, revival requires a change of power! In their power the Jewish people were afraid to build the Temple because of an earlier threat from a king and the people around them. When they turned to God and prayer (see Ezra) the Temple was built in four years. Amazing what God's power can do. How about you? Whose power are you living under?

In Christ's Love, Pastor Mike

Pray For: Our country, Afghanistan situation, survivors of the earthquake in Haiti, Dennis & Eliana Scott (COVID recovery), Faye Cooper

Events: Children's Ministry Volunteers Meeting this Sunday. September 5, Sunday: unity service with New Albany Presbyterian Church at the shelter house