Putting First Things First
Haggai 1:2-8

Introduction:

God's Blessings – are something Christians covet, desire, and live for. Grace and Mercy are forms of God's blessings, but God has a specific category called "Blessings" that many Christians miss out on because of a lack of obedience to His word.

"The one habit all successful people have is to Put First things First."

I. **Stop Making Excuses v.2**

    a. Haggai confronted the peoples excuses for the Temple being in ruins

    b. They intended to get around to it.

    c. Billy Sunday defined an excuse as the "the skin of a reasons stuffed with a lie."

II. **Cease Being Selfish vss. 3-4**

    a. Haggai challenged the peoples selfish behavior

    b. Their homes were taken care of but not the Temple

    c. The issue was they spent all their money and time on their selfish needs while ignoring the things of God

III. **Don't Miss God's Blessings vss. 5-6**

    a. Because of their excuse making and selfish living the people experienced hardship

    b. They had active lives but were not experiencing satisfaction.

    c. Whatever happens in your heart affects every other part of your life

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IV. Take Time to Evaluate vss 5 & 7

    a. We must consider our ways -

    b. We are often our own worst enemy. Too often we cause the issues we experience in our life

    c. Each day we need to evaluate how we spend our time, money, and use our talents

    d. If God is not first, guess who removed Him

V. How Do We Know We Have First Things First v.8,13

    a. Those who Put first Things First are up and doing the right things

      i. Spending time with God daily, serving people

      ii. Honoring Him with their time, talents, and financial resources.

    b. God is being glorified, Everything we think, say , and do is to honor God

    c. God Blesses Us

      i. And a sure sign of His blessing is His presence

      ii. If God seems distant in your life, perhaps your priorities have gotten mixed up.

"You see the successful people in Christ have the habit of doing the things failures don't like to do!"