

Text: *Haggai 1:2-15; John 1:14*

We Need to Remove Our Favorite Excuses

- Our favorite excuse is _____.

- We are saying that we are the ones around which _____.

We Must Carefully Look at Our Circumstances

- God uses our nagging sense of _____.

- God also uses _____ hardship.

When We Listen, God Empowers

- Listening implies _____.

Life Enrichment

What about today's teaching challenged, disturbed, or encouraged you?

- What are some Old Testament hints that God's passion is to dwell among us?
- Why do you think Garden of Eden imagery was so important to God?
- Other than time, what are some of our favorite excuses?
- How can we discern between an excuse and a legitimate reason?
- What is Jesus' wisdom regarding priorities (see Matt 6:33)? Who are we hurting when our priorities are out of alignment?
- When have you noticed God speaking to you through your circumstances? What was He trying to tell you? Did you listen?
- How does God use things like our insatiable appetite for more and economic inflation to get our attention? Why are we more inclined to complain about things like inflation and adversity than see them as opportunities for God to speak?
- How will prioritizing God's presence change our lives, church, and community?