

“Consider What You Are Building”

Haggai 1:1-11

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(Lord's Day Service, October 20th, 2019)

Haggai 1:1-11

The Command to Rebuild the Temple

¹*In the second year of Darius the king, in the sixth month, on the first day of the month, the word of the LORD came by the hand of Haggai the prophet to Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest: ²“Thus says the LORD of hosts: These people say the time has not yet come to rebuild the house of the LORD.” ³Then the word of the LORD came by the hand of Haggai the prophet, ⁴“Is it a time for you yourselves to dwell in your paneled houses, while this house lies in ruins? ⁵Now, therefore, thus says the LORD of hosts: Consider your ways. ⁶You have sown much, and harvested little. You eat, but you never have enough; you drink, but you never have your fill. You clothe yourselves, but no one is warm. And he who earns wages does so to put them into a bag with holes.*

⁷*“Thus says the LORD of hosts: Consider your ways. ⁸Go up to the hills and bring wood and build the house, that I may take pleasure in it and that I may be glorified, says the LORD. ⁹You looked for much, and behold, it came to little. And when you brought it home, I blew it away. Why? declares the LORD of hosts. Because of my house that lies in ruins, while each of you busies himself with his own house. ¹⁰Therefore the heavens above you have withheld the dew, and the earth has withheld its produce. ¹¹And I have called for a drought on the land and the hills, on the grain, the new wine, the oil, on what the ground brings forth, on man and beast, and on all their labors.”*

Introduction

Haggai 1:1-11 Rebuilding the people of God

Haggai 1:12-15 Rebuilding the temple

Haggai 2:1-9 Encouragement for the rebuilding

Haggai 2:10-23 Blessings from rebuilding

The book of Haggai is about rebuilding the temple of God. Let me give some background to the book of Haggai because context is important. The temple was a meeting place between man and God. Before the temple was constructed, God's presence was carried around in an ark and placed in the tabernacle. But King David found in his heart to build God a permanent residence: the temple. Yet, God told David that he was not allowed to build the temple because of his sin. So his son, Solomon, built God a temple around 970 to 951 B.C. But in 587 B.C., Jerusalem was sieged by Nebuchadnezzar and the temple was destroyed and the Jews were exiled. A few years later in 538 B.C., Cyrus, the first king of Persia, conquered Babylon and he issued a decree that all of Babylon's captives could return to their homes. So the first group of Jews, 40,000 of them, returned back home to Jerusalem and when they arrived in 536 B.C., there was nothing in Jerusalem but ruins, poverty, and opposition from the Samaritans and the local population. They came back to Jerusalem but even though they were back at home, they did nothing to rebuild the temple.

That brings us to our passage here today. On August 29th 520 B.C., sixteen years after the Israelites arrived back in Jerusalem, through Haggai, God tells the Israelites to begin rebuilding the temple of God. But before rebuilding the temple of God, God is interested in rebuilding the people of God. Why did it take the Israelites sixteen years to begin rebuilding the temple of God? Because 16 years is a long time. Think about it. Right now, it's 2019. 16 years ago - if you're good at math, it was 2003 - what happened in 2003? Here's a couple things. In 2003, the Department of U.S. Homeland Security officially began operation. In 2003, Apple launched iTunes for the first time, which became a major success, selling 10 million songs within four months. Finding Nemo came out. And then the number one song in 2003, 16 years ago, was 50 Cent's "In Da Club." 16 years ago - that's a long time for people to be in Jerusalem but not to do anything in rebuilding the house of God. Why did it take so long? Because they did not take the time to consider.

It says in verse 5, "*Now, therefore, thus says the LORD of hosts: Consider your ways.*" That word "consider" means set to heart. Set to heart your ways, because the heart was the seat of the intellect, a relation for the Hebrews. So this is an exhortation to think. Think about your ways, think about the way that you are living, because the danger in life is that we could do life without thinking about what we're doing. If you do that, life would just pass on by. We have to think and consider what we are doing with our lives. Why? Because our lives here on earth impact our lives eternally. So the question for you today: How is your life right now? How is your living for the Lord at this time? God is not just interested in blessing us during the revival, but God is interested in helping us to live for Him every single day of our lives. More than building a place, God is interested in building His people. So, consider what you're building.

We're going to look at three things here this morning. One, consider who is speaking to you, two, consider what you're doing, and three, consider what God is doing. Let's get to it.

I. Consider who is speaking to you [1]

¹In the second year of Darius the king, in the sixth month, on the first day of the month, the word of the LORD came by the hand of Haggai the prophet to Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest:

In this day and age, there are many people that speak to us. Many voices can be heard through the various means of communication, and that's a positive thing. But as you hear all these voices, we must consider who is speaking to us.

A. Be careful of whom you listen to

1 John 4:1 – Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world.

Be careful of who you listen to. Be careful of the loudest voice. Have you ever been in a setting where there is a person that speaks very loudly and it seems like they're convincing? It appears that they know what they're talking about, but the loudest voice does not necessarily mean that it's the correct voice. Sometimes, those who are vocal are actually in the minority but because they are so loud and so confident, it seems that what they are saying is what everyone else is

thinking. Also, be careful of the majority voice. The majority is not always correct. We live in a society where the majority opinion matters, but as we look at the Bible, the majority is not always correct. When Jesus arrived on this earth, the majority of Jews wanted him to stay alive, to be the King that would bring political freedom to the Jews. But Jesus didn't listen to the majority voice. Instead, he came as a servant and would suffer and die for the people's sins in his first coming. Be careful of the loudest voice, be careful of majority voice. But listen to God's voice.

How do we listen to God's voice? Verse 1, *"The word of the LORD came by the hand of Haggai the prophet."* During this time when there was no Bible, God would use prophets to deliver His message. A prophet is a person that speaks on behalf of God. Today, there is no office of the prophet since we have the whole Bible. But this voice is interesting because it says it *"came by the hand"* of the prophet rather than the mouth of the prophet. As God spoke to Haggai, he wrote it down and shared it with Zerubbabel and Joshua. And that's exactly how the Bible was written. God spoke to the apostles and through their own personality and character, they wrote the Word of God. So how do we listen to God's voice? Read the Word. You have to read the Word but be quick to listen to people that will speak to you the Word of God. But that begs the question: how do we know if people are speaking to us what God wants us to hear? It says this in 1 John 4:1, *"Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God."* Test what people are saying to see if it's aligned with God's Word because as people say things, they could be saying things out of their own selfish spirit. And as you do this, carefully listen to God.

B. Carefully listen to God

1 Samuel 3:19 – *And Samuel grew, and the LORD was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground.*

Carefully listen to God. I think it's intentional that verse 1 starts off with Haggai, *"The word of the LORD came by the hand of Haggai the prophet."* We have to learn to carefully listen to God. The eyes and the ears are the mouth of the heart. As you read God's Word and listen to people who give you God's Word, have a heart that will want to receive the heart of God. The eyes and ears are the mouth of the heart. How do we carefully listen to God's Word? 1 Samuel 3:19 says this, *"And Samuel grew, and the LORD was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground."* Samuel listened attentively to the Lord and he did not allow God's Word to fall to the ground. Listen carefully to the point that you do not allow God's Word to fall to the ground and be wasted. Hear every word of God.

While I was in seminary, I had the privilege of taking a seminary class with D.A. Carson, world renowned scholar. At the beginning of the semester, he told our class that he would give ten question quizzes at the beginning of some classes. He would say the question once verbally and if we missed the question, we missed it. The challenging thing was that for an auditorium of 100 students, he didn't use a microphone. So before he would come in, we would all be talking, getting ready for the quiz, but once he opened up his notebook and started reciting the quiz questions, everyone leaned in to listen carefully to every single word. How much more should we lean in to the Word of God? Lean in to learn of God's Word. How do we lean in? Be hungry and humble rather than proud and arrogant.

For proud and arrogant people, their thinking is, “I will only listen if it’s biblical.” They will only listen if it’s biblical because they just want the bare minimum of God. They listen to sermons that they want to hear. But hungry and humble people will say, “I will listen unless it’s unbiblical.” They will listen unless it’s unbiblical because they want as much of God as possible. They listen to sermons not based on what they want to hear but what they need to hear. If there’s someone following the Lord, they want to follow their following of the Lord. God is telling us to listen carefully to His words. As we listen carefully to His words, He helps us to live carefully for Him. Consider who’s speaking to you but the second point is this: consider what you’re doing.

II. Consider what you are doing [2-6]

²“Thus says the LORD of hosts: These people say the time has not yet come to rebuild the house of the LORD.” ³Then the word of the LORD came by the hand of Haggai the prophet, ⁴“Is it a time for you yourselves to dwell in your paneled houses, while this house lies in ruins? ⁵Now, therefore, thus says the LORD of hosts: Consider your ways. ⁶You have sown much and harvested little. You eat, but you never have enough; you drink, but you never have your fill. You clothe yourselves, but no one is warm. And he who earns wages does so to put them into a bag with holes.

There are three questions here that will help us to consider what we’re doing with our lives. First question is this: who are you living for?

A. Who are you living for? [2]

²“Thus says the LORD of hosts: These people say the time has not yet come to rebuild the house of the LORD.”

It says in verse 2, “Thus says the LORD of hosts: These people say.” All throughout the Old Testament, the Jewish people have been called the people of God. God says, “I will be your God and you will be my people.” But in this passage, the Lord doesn’t refer to them as His people because they were not living like His people. Earlier prophets used the term “these people” as a reproach and as a sign of rejection by the Lord. What would God call you today? Would God call you “these people” or “my people?” Who are you living for? Often times, who we’re living for is shown by what we spend our resources on.

B. What are you spending your resources on? [3-4]

³Then the word of the LORD came by the hand of Haggai the prophet, ⁴“Is it a time for you yourselves to dwell in your paneled houses, while this house lies in ruins?”

What are you spending your resources on? It says in verse 3, “Then the word of the LORD came by the hand of Haggai the prophet.” It asks this question, “Is it a time for you yourselves to dwell in your paneled houses, while this house lies in ruins?” For sixteen years, the Jews were spending time dwelling in their own panel of houses. “Panel” was in reference to wood and cedar: special materials to cover their houses with. This was in direct contrast of how the house of God remained in ruins. During this post-exilic time, one rarely found houses that had four walls. But these Jews had four walls. The idea here is that they were living beyond the basic needs for the

house. They weren't just living; they were living in luxury. They were spending their resources on themselves rather than on God. They had roofs and panels while the temple of God had no roof and lied in ruins. But they also spent their time on themselves rather than on God. For sixteen years, the Israelites said, "Is it not time to rebuild the house of God?" Why? Because in their mind they were saying, "It's me first, then God second." For the Israelites, it was a timing issue. "It's not time yet!" But as we look at how they use their resources, it shows that it was a heart issue. If you want to see what you love, see what you spend your resources on because we always make time for what we love and we'll always spend money on what we love. If you want to examine your life, see what you spend your resources on.

The best time to live for God is today. Laziness and procrastination, it has a crazy way about it, doesn't it? It will keep on saying, "I will live for God later." But the way that our sinful, manipulative heart works is that if we say, "God, I'm going to live for you later," then other things in our lives will keep on getting in the way of living for God right now. In order to live for God, you don't give God your leftover time. It's not just a matter of chronology but it's a matter of priority. You have to do two things with your time. First, you have to see that all of your time is actually God's time that He's given to you. Your life here on this earth is actually borrowed time from God. So all of your time is given to you by God. But another thing is that you intentionally make time for God, to receive more of Him and to serve Him more. When you say later, it's very possible that that time will never come. Intentionally make time for the Lord. Consider what you're spending your resources on and examine your life. But lastly, consider what the results are.

C. What are the results? [5-6]

⁵Now, therefore, thus says the LORD of hosts: Consider your ways. ⁶You have sown much, and harvested little. You eat, but you never have enough; you drink, but you never have your fill. You clothe yourselves, but no one is warm. And he who earns wages does so to put them into a bag with holes.

Consider the results of your life. In verse 6 it says, "*You have sown much, and harvested little. You eat, but you never have enough; you drink, but you never have your fill.*" This verse is saying, "You're doing a lot, but you're not receiving a lot." This is describing a life of futility. It says, "*You clothe yourselves, but no one is warm. And he who earns wages does so to put them into a bag with holes.*" You're doing all this work, but you're not receiving the results of this work. This is futility – they do much but they gain little. Think about your life. Don't just live your life but consider the results of your life. If we're to be honest, sometimes the results of our lives right now are good but think about the eternal perspective. Don't just think about the here and now, but think about what your life will result in for eternity. Many people study to get a good job, and they get a good job to have a good life. But think long and hard: in the end, what is the result of your good life? It's interesting. Human beings aren't simply satisfied with just mere existence. We need to have purpose. We need to exist for something meaningful. Many people in society such as celebrities have achieved a lot but it speaks volumes that even when people reach the pinnacle of whatever they want to do, sometimes it doesn't satisfy. Getting as much money as possible, winning a championship in sports, being able to travel the world and having worldwide fame does not mean that you will be satisfied. Sometimes, the way that we are, we say, "I have to

experience that myself.” But look at the lives of other people. Just because you achieve all these things doesn’t mean that you’ll be satisfied. Why? Because we’re meant to live for something more.

I think C.S. Lewis said it well. He said, “If we find ourselves with the desire that nothing in this world can satisfy, the most probable explanation is that we were made for another world.” On this side of eternity, we will not be completely satisfied by what we do on this earth. Why? Because we were made for the Lord. We were made for something more. So don’t just do life but think about what your life will do. Studying, working, having relationships, all these things – think about what your life will result in. Remember verse 5 when the Lord says to Haggai, “*Consider your ways.*” That’s a command. Consider your life to make sure that your ways are in alignment with God’s ways. Don’t just be content with existing, but make sure that you are living. What is God saying that living is? It’s living in alignment with the life of God.

My family and I enjoy playing board games. One game that we play every so often is Monopoly. I admit, Monopoly can be boring sometimes because it’s a long game but sometimes, Monopoly is really fun, especially when I play with my kids. When I play with my kids, I get as much property as possible and I love it when they land on my property because they have to pay for the consequences of landing on my property. There’s times when my kids are running low on money and they land on my property. God’s providence. And because they know that I am a gracious and loving father, they say, “Dad, I don’t have a lot of money so for this once, can you let me stay on your property for free? Otherwise, I will lose.” So being the gracious and loving father that I am, I think about it, and I say no. And the reason why I say no is because in life, there are consequences for your actions. In our family, you don’t get a participation award, okay? Sometimes, I show them grace. I’m not really that harsh. But in moments that I don’t show grace, I say, “No, I won’t because there’s consequences for actions.” They lose and they’re sad and I win and I’m really happy. And I don’t mind throwing the money on the floor and rolling around in it. It’s fun for me, but at the end of the game, what happens? You take the hotels, you take the pieces, you take the money, and you put it all back into the box. And then what happens? You go back onto the rest of life. The money you have in Monopoly doesn’t translate to money in reality. And such is life.

How much money you earn in this world doesn’t really matter. God is saying that before life ends, consider what you will do beyond this life here on earth. Consider, think about it long and hard, because everything goes back into the box. But live for the Lord and consider your ways so that your ways are in alignment with His ways. You only have one life, so God is telling us to live it well. So how do we do that? The last point: consider what God is doing.

III. Consider what God is doing [7-11]

⁷“Thus says the LORD of hosts: *Consider your ways.* ⁸*Go up to the hills and bring wood and build the house, that I may take pleasure in it and that I may be glorified, says the LORD.* ⁹*You looked for much, and behold, it came to little. And when you brought it home, I blew it away. Why? declares the LORD of hosts. Because of my house that lies in ruins, while each of you busies himself with his own house.*

¹⁰*Therefore the heavens above you have withheld the dew, and the earth has withheld its produce.* ¹¹*And I*

have called for a drought on the land and the hills, on the grain, the new wine, the oil, on what the ground brings forth, on man and beast, and on all their labors.”

Four times in these five verses, verses 7-11, God says “I” in reference to Himself. Why? Because God is saying that He is doing something. What is God doing? God gives us instructions to obey.

A. God gives us instructions to obey [7-8]

⁷*“Thus says the LORD of hosts: Consider your ways. ⁸Go up to the hills and bring wood and build the house, that I may take pleasure in it and that I may be glorified, says the LORD.*

He says in verse 8, “Go up to the hills and bring wood and build the house.” God tells the Israelites that it’s time to build His house. He commands. And for us today, what is “build the house” look like? Build your love for God and build up other people, whether you feel like it or not because whatever God commands, we should obey. What else is God doing? God wants to change what we take pleasure in.

B. God wants to change what we take pleasure in [8]

⁸*Go up to the hills and bring wood and build the house, that I may take pleasure in it and that I may be glorified, says the LORD.*

It says in verse 8, “Go up to the hills and bring wood and build the house, that I may take pleasure in it and that I may be glorified.” As human beings, we are pleasure seekers. We sin because we love to sin. We will go for whatever gives us the highest pleasure at that time. But what we need to ask ourselves is, “Is what we see subjectively as the highest pleasure really objectively the highest pleasure?” Don’t just go for anything but make sure that you’re going for the highest pleasure. We are too easily satisfied in our pleasures. God tells the Israelites to build the temple of God so that God may take pleasure in it. What is God doing? He’s trying to change what they take pleasure in. God, the highest being, knows what the highest pleasure is and He desires for us to take pleasure in what He takes pleasure in. God knows what’s best. Self-glorifying pleasure is not what’s most pleasurable but God-glorifying pleasure is. When you think about Jesus Christ, that he came to earth and he served, his pleasure was bound up in obeying the Lord. Even when you deny yourself in obeying God and you’re saying no to your own pleasures, when you understand what Christ did at that time and you understand the greatness of God’s love and His righteousness, there’s no pleasure like that. God wants to change our pleasures. Building a house for yourself is good, but building a house for God is great. Using your life for yourself is good, but using the whole life that you have to please God is great. Seek the highest pleasure and take pleasure in what God takes pleasure in. Take glory in what God takes glory in. When we obey, we may not initially take pleasure in what God takes pleasure in but I know that as we obey out of a heart of love for God, He will in due time change our pleasure. Lastly, as we see this passage, God will work through circumstances to bring us back to Him.

C. God will work through circumstances to bring us back to Him [9-11]

⁹*You looked for much, and behold, it came to little. And when you brought it home, I blew it away. Why? declares the LORD of hosts. Because of my house that lies in ruins, while each of*

you busies himself with his own house. ¹⁰Therefore the heavens above you have withheld the dew, and the earth has withheld its produce. ¹¹And I have called for a drought on the land and the hills, on the grain, the new wine, the oil, on what the ground brings forth, on man and beast, and on all their labors.”

Romans 8:28-29 – ²⁸*And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.*

Because the Israelites were not concerned about God, God is showing his concern for them. He’s working through circumstances to bring them back to Him. It says in verse 9, “*You looked for much, and behold, it came to little. And when you brought it home, I blew it away.*” Verse 10, “*Therefore the heavens above you have withheld the dew, and the earth has withheld its produce.*” Why? Because in verse 11, “*I have called for a drought.*” The Israelites busy themselves with their own houses, but God worked to stop them from being futilely busy. God will work through circumstances so that we’re not futilely busy. Sin causes us to be futilely busy, but God is working to bring us back to Him. Sometimes, we see that God is good when good things happen in our lives. But this passage is showing us that God is good even when He allows bad things to happen to us so that we come back to Him. That is a good God. Sometimes, when we are living away from the Lord, He wants to not allow the results that we want. Why? So that we will stop and think about what we’re living for and see that God wants us to come back to Him. Even when bad things have the appearance of being bad, Scripture tells us that God is working all things for our good. Romans 8:28 says this, “*And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good.*” And what is that good? Verse 29, “*To conform to the image of his Son.*” Whatever circumstances you’re going through, especially challenging times, don’t just ask, “What is happening in my life?” But rather ask, “What is God doing in my life right now?” Ask, “How is God trying to conform me more into the image of the Son right now in this time?”

Don’t let the circumstances control you but control the circumstances as you look at God. God loves you too much to let you live a life away from Him. He wants your short life to be built on Him because the life that is built on Him will last forever and ever for His glory. Before God has the people build the temple, God wants to build up the people of God. The temple needed a good foundation and God is saying that we need a good foundation. So lay your life on the foundation of Jesus Christ. Truthfully, we have a hard time doing this because we love our sin. But as we look all the way back to the first sin, we can see how God worked to bring mankind back to Him.

Conclusion

Genesis 3:6 – *So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.*

Genesis 3:17 – *And to Adam he said, “Because you have listened to the voice of your wife and have eaten of the tree of which I commanded you, ‘You shall not eat of it,’ cursed is the ground because of you; in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life;*

Genesis 3:15 – *I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.*

Revelation 21:4 – *He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.*

When we look back to Genesis 3:6, it says this, “So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eye. . . she took of its fruit and ate it.” Just like Eve, we sin because it’s pleasurable to us, even though it goes directly against God’s Word. But what did God do as a result of this? In Genesis 3:17, He says to Adam, “Cursed is the ground because of you.” Actions have consequences. God’s saying, “Adam, because you and Eve disobeyed, cursed is the ground because of you. The fruit that you had in your relationship with me, you will see the futility of it because as you broke your relationship with me, you will see the brokenness in this world.” And doesn’t that bring us to the passage here today? Haggai 1:11, “I have called for a drought. . . on what the ground brings forth, on man and beast, and on all their labors.” What was happening in Genesis 3 is happening in Haggai 1. What did God do in Genesis 3? He said this to Satan, “I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring.” And “he” referring to Jesus Christ, “He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.” God, even all the way in the beginning, knew that his Son would come down and that he would have his flesh torn for our sins, bearing the consequences for our sins. Through his perfect life, death, and resurrection, Jesus gives us life back to him. We will go through challenging times because we live in a world littered with sin. But one day, when Jesus comes again, there will be no more consequences for our actions. Revelation 21:4, in his second coming when he comes again, it says this, “He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.” There will be no more consequences for sin because Christ has dealt with it all. But until then, build your life upon Jesus Christ. Not tomorrow, but today because God has given you your life and He does not want you to waste even one single day away from Him. Even one single day is one day too many to waste away from the Lord.

As we end, I want to share with you a story that has deeply impacted me and stuck with me for about twenty years. There’s a pastor that I respect, Pastor John Piper, who shared this story because this is the story that has deeply impacted his life as well. John Piper’s father was an evangelist. As an evangelist, he would plead with people of all ages to not waste their lives. But one story in particular that John Piper’s father shared with him gripped his life. His father says that his church had been praying for an old man to be saved for decades. This old man was hard and resistant to the gospel. But one day, the man showed up when John Piper’s father was preaching and at the end of the service during a hymn, to everyone’s amazement, the man opened his heart to the gospel. He came up to the front and God saved him and people were amazed. But as the service ended, the man just kept weeping uncontrollably and as tears ran down his wrinkled face, John Piper’s father shared with him that the reason why this man was weeping was because he was saying, “I wasted it. I’ve wasted it.” Sure, this man came to the Lord and that is a

great thing. But as he considered the whole of his life, his old age, he realized how much of his life he wasted on living for himself. This shaped John Piper's life and his ministry because he did not want even one day wasted living away from the Lord.

This doesn't mean that we all need to go into ministry but what this means is that in whatever you're doing, do it in your love for the Lord. In whatever you're doing, take time to receive more of God and serve the Lord with all of your life. God does not want us to waste our lives. Consider who is speaking to you, consider what you're doing, and consider what God is doing. Why? Because God is awakening us to live for Him. Anytime you live for the Lord, anytime you study for the Lord, anytime you work for the Lord, and anytime you love others for the Lord, it is never a waste. Others may call it a waste, but God never says, "It is a waste." Why? Because it points to the Lord and it glorifies God. CFC, our lives are short, but may our short lives be used for the glory of God.