

7. God will never offer you leftovers because His love is the fresh food we need to energize us, so why do we settle for LEFTOVERS? Why do we settle for our scraps? Do you believe that our self interests are simply leftovers and scraps?

8. Read Haggai at one sitting and concentrate on the expression “Give careful thought”. Why do you think the Lord wanted Haggai to place attention to this expression? What does it mean, to “give careful thought”?

9. Read Haggai 1:7-8, there are three imperatives “go”, “bring down” and “build” with a purpose clause to follow. What does He truly take pleasure in? What did the Temple represent? Does He take pleasure in obedience? What happens when we obey? Does He provide His presence and provision? Read Haggai 1:12-14; 2:20-23.

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## Don't Settle For Leftovers

**LEFTOVERS** can be a portion of food or time that has been unused for another time.

Leftovers, although taste good, have very little **NUTRITIONAL VALUE**.

A form of leftovers is making **EXCUSES** for not fulfilling our responsibilities. (Haggai 1:1-2; Ezra 4:1-5; 24)

Our lack of interest for God's priorities can be equated to **GOD'S TIMING**. (Haggai 1:2-4)

Depending on the **EFFORT** you give will determine the level of results. (Haggai 1:9-11)

God takes our leftovers and throws them into a **LANDFILL**. (Haggai 2:10-14)

God's covenant love is offered **FRESH DAILY**. (Haggai 1:13; 2:4-5)

God's covenant love is the fresh food we need to be **ENERGIZED**. (Haggai 1:13-14)

When we obey, we offer the Lord a meal He **TAKES PLEASURE IN**. (Haggai 1:5-8)

God offers His best through **JESUS CHRIST**.

## FOOD FOR THOUGHT

For the week of July 4, 2010

(Questions and Scriptures for further study)

1. Can you name one ministry God has clearly called you to accomplish? Do you feel like He has shut the door? Does that frustrate you? Do you feel like you are getting opposition? Have you lost interest in the ministry He has given you due to the opposition? Read Ezra 4:1-5; Haggai 1:1-4 and discuss.

2. If you were offered leftovers or a freshly cooked meal, which one would you choose? If you had guests come over for the first time, would you offer your guests leftovers? Discuss.

3. What do you offer the Lord daily? Do you offer Him your leftovers? Do you find yourself making Him the priority of your daily living? Read Haggai 1:1-5 and discuss.

4. What are some of your personal interests? Are there some that pull you away from God? Do you make up excuses in order to justify your personal interests? Read Haggai 1:2-4 and discuss.

5. Do you believe that your lack of interest for God's priorities can be equated to God's timing? Do you believe you lack time management skills that will result in more time for the Kingdom? Do you expect much from God but invest only a little time in Him? Read Haggai 1:9-11 and discuss.

6. Are you drawing from God's covenant love that is offered to you fresh daily? DO YOU believe that love is sufficient? Do you believe that God is faithful to His covenant? When He says, "I am with you", what does that mean? Read Haggai 1:13; 2:4-5 and discuss.