



THE STORY

A chronological journey
through the Bible

Sermon Series

Journey Group Lesson “The Return Home” – May 26, 2013

Getting Started

Are you someone who waits patiently for things? How do you pass the time while you wait?

Digging Deeper

Read [Ezra 4:1-5, 12-16, 23](#)

What kind of conflict and opposition did the people face?

When we seek to follow God’s will with a passionate heart, what resistance might we face?

Read [Haggai 1:7-15](#)

What slowed down the work of rebuilding God’s temple and what got them up and moving again?

What are some of the consequences we face when we do our own thing and forget to follow God’s plan for our lives?

Read [Haggai 2:6-9, 20-23](#)

What did God promise the people if they would move forward with his work?

How does this bring you hope and inspiration to walk in obedience to God’s leading?

Bringing It Home

Randy pointed out that God was “pulling some strings in the Upper Story” (putting King Cyrus on the throne) so that he could make changes in the Lower Story (set the exiles free). Give an example of a time in your life when you know that God was moving in the Upper Story so that he could accomplish something in your Lower Story.

Randy also talked about how God’s big thing can become our little thing if we are not careful. When this happens, we get off track. What can we do to make sure we are really seeking to keep God’s big thing on the front burner of our heart and life?

Have you ever waited for a long time for God to take action or to answer a prayer? How did you meet God in the waiting and in the time when he finally answered?

Pray for strength to do what it takes to follow God’s will for you life.