

Focus Session  
**Good Questions – Part Two**  
January 9, 2011

I. Introduction (12:40)

- A. Goal of this session: To learn how to ask good questions, one of the most important skills for a discussion leader to effect transformation.
  
- B. Prayer

II. Review

A. Hook – Look – Book – Took

- 1. Hook
- 2. Look
- 3. Book
- 4. Took

B. The Objective

- 1. Exegetical intent
- 2. Volition
- 3. Specific
- 4. The objective guides the H – L – B – T

C. The Questions

D. Editing

- 1. Picturesque
- 2. Open-ended
- 3. Experience
- 4. Thirteen

### III. Haggai 2:1-9 (12:50 p.m.) Objective and questions

#### A. Objective

1. Community members will keep working for the Lord (even if things aren't what they used to be).
2. Community members will seek to understand God's perspective on things.

#### B. Hook

1. As people get older, they often wish for the "good old days" – perhaps in their nation's history, or a social organization, or their family. What do you remember from the past that you view as a "good old days" experience?
2. What projects have you started and lost interest in? Can you remember why you lost interest?

#### C. Look

1. What's so important about the date in Haggai 2:1? Why do you think Haggai takes the time to list the specific day and month in 1:1, 1:15 as well as 2:10 and 2:20?
2. Who are the five participants in this passage (2:1-9), and what would you say their roles are?
3. Verse 3 talks about the house the temple-workers are building. Why do you think they would say it was "nothing?" What do you think it would do to the worker to have that word repeating itself in their heads?
4. What would you think the people would expect the Lord to say about the building they were constructing? What do you think surprised them in His response in verses 4,5,7, and 9?
5. What are the specific commands to the workers in verses 4-5? And what are the specific promises from God in 4-9 that should control their thinking?

D. Book

1. Why do you think the Lord points out their negative attitude in verse 3? Don't you think that would discourage the people? Is there value in talking about bad attitudes?
2. In verses 4-5, even though the people are discouraged, the Lord commands them to do three things: (1) be courageous, (2) work, (3) no fear. Where do you think those abilities come from? Does it take special grace from God?
3. Verses 6-9 talk about shaking, glory, wealth, and peace. What do you think God is referring to here? Have these things happened? Are they yet to happen? How do you think Hebrews 12:26-28 fits in here?
4. If you were a discouraged temple-builder, how would verses 6-9 encourage you? What would you look for as you went to work each day?

E. Took

1. The people were discouraged in verse 3 because they were *comparing* today with yesterday. Do you ever do that? How do you think we can encourage one another with this passage when present days seem to be "nothing"?
2. Are you discouraged by an unfinished project? What promise from verses 4-9 seems to fit your situation? What do you think God would want you to claim (and do about your project) this week?