



## **Plant • Grow • Harvest | Home Group Guide**

“Generous Hearts” | A Life that Matters, Haggai 1:2-9 – Mark Sorensen

### **Gather**

• Welcome to our first Harvest Home Group of the semester. Perhaps you’re new to a home group, returning to one, or maybe you’re one of the rebellious groups that never stopped meeting (we love the rebels, by the way;) Start this group by sharing your name, why you’re here and what you hope to find in this next semester of meeting in your home group! Honesty is welcome here.

### **Plant**

- The message this week is one of stewardship. What does this word, “stewardship” mean to you? Discuss.
- Have someone from your group read Haggai 1:3-9.
- Context. The people of God have found freedom from Babylonian captivity and returned back to their homes and began rebuilding God’s temple which had been destroyed. The problem? What started as zeal and joy in rebuilding God’s house turned to apathy and complacency. Sixteen years had passed and rebuilding the house of the Lord became secondary to their own comfort and security. So, Haggai delivers this message from the Lord: “It’s time to go to work, people.”<sup>1</sup>
- Question. How is this relevant today? Is it relevant today?

### **Grow**

- At the heart of this story, the people of God had stopped putting Him first. Question. What areas of our lives do we struggle putting God first?
- When we put God first, how does this benefit us? Have someone read the following passages. Matthew 6:25-34 (with a specific focus on verse :33), Romans 14:12. What do these verses say? How do they relate to stewardship?

### **Harvest**

- What happens when our giving moves from beyond obligation to joy? Someone in the group read 2 Corinthians 8:3-9. What challenges you in this passage? What encourages you?
- Final question. In what ways can we give of our best to the Lord? How can you put flesh on the message of Generous Hearts this week? Are there ways you can give to be a blessing to someone else?

### **Prayers**

- Close with sharing prayer requests and prayer.

**We appreciate every single one of you!!! Extra points to the groups who take a selfie and share those pictures with the hashtag, #HarvestHomeGroups OR you can send those pics to Sonya Hall at, [shall@twumc.org](mailto:shall@twumc.org)**

<sup>1</sup> (MSIV, Mark Sorensen International Version, not in print:)