



FAMILY STUDY

Through Judgment to Blessing

Zephaniah is a message of judgment. He tells of a God who loves His people enough that He allows them to be hurt in order to help them. He directs them to Look past the hurt to the healing. Then like a bridegroom, the Lord rejoices over His people.

After the exile, a remnant of God's people return to the land--only 50,000 people. Haggai lived during this time. The people were so excited about their return and they wanted to build God's temple. However, over time, they stopped building. Then in 520 BC they began building again due to four men; the governor of Jerusalem, the high priest and 2 prophets.

Test Your Smarts

Objectives:	Get comfortable with your Bible and looking up answers. Gain confidence in your knowledge of the books Zephaniah and Haggai. Gain insight into our own faith. Have fun with your family.
Number of Players:	at least 3
Length:	15 - 30 minutes
Set up:	Choose Mom or Dad to be the expert. Choose one person (must be able to read) to be the host. Divide the rest of the family into two teams. Make sure you have at least one person on each team who can look up verses and read them. Each team sits with their team mates and slightly separate from the other team and the parent expert. Props: Each team should have a bible (preferably New King James). The parent expert (Mom or Dad) has to play without a Bible. 3 dice to be used in the case of a tie breaker. A large white board or paper to keep score where everyone can see what the score is.



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The Play: Begin by having the host explain the rules:
Each team and parent expert is eligible to answer every question. However, someone from your team must raise their hand in order to be eligible to answer. Once they have been called on by the host, they have 3 seconds to give their answer. Each team may use their Bible to find the answer, but they should not raise their hand until they are ready to answer. If you raise your hand, are called on by the host and you give the correct answer, your team earns 10 points. If you give the wrong answer or no answer at all after you raise your hand and have been called on, you will lose 5 points. These rules also apply to the parent expert. However, the parent expert can not use a Bible to look up their answers. When consulting with your team remember to whisper so the other team and/or the parent expert cannot hear you and steal your answer. The host should pay close attention so they can call on the person who raised their hand first. In the case of a hand-raising tie, the host should have the participants each roll the dice. Whoever has the highest roll, gets to answer. If a wrong answer is given, the other teams and/or parent expert can still answer the question and win the points, they just need to raise their hand to indicate they want to answer. The host will read the scripture reference and the scripture, saying "blank" where there is underlined/light grey text. (no one else should look at the host's list as the answers are in light grey print.) The host will repeat the scripture. Participants can ask the host to re-read the scripture reference and the scripture numerous times until someone raises their hand to answer. After each answer, the host will determine the points earned or lost and document them where everyone can see. At the end of play, the host will declare the winner.

Zephaniah 1: I will stretch out my hand against _(Judah)_, And against all the inhabitants of _(Jerusalem)_ .

Zephaniah 1: The great day of the _(Lord)_ is near.

Zephaniah 1: That day is a day of _(wrath)_, a day of _(trouble)_ and _(distress)_.

Zephaniah 1: _(Seek)_ the Lord, all you meek of the earth.

Zephaniah 2: And He will stretch out His hand against _(the north)_, destroy _(Assyria)_ and make _(Nineveh)_ a desolation, as dry as the wilderness.

Zephaniah 3: For then I will _(restore)_ to the peoples a pure _(language)_.

Zephaniah 3: That they may call on the name of the _(Lord)_, to _(serve)_ Him with one accord.

Zephaniah 3: The King of _(Israel)_, the Lord, is in your _(midst)_; you shall see _(disaster)_ no more.

Zephaniah 3: He will _(rejoice)_ over you with _(singing)_.

Haggai 1: Now therefore, thus says the Lord of hosts: "_(Consider)_ your ways."

Haggai 1: You have _(sown)_ much, and bring in _(little)_.

Flight 43: Destination: Zephaniah & Haggai

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Haggai 1: Go up to the _(mountains)_ and bring wood and build the _(temple)_.

Haggai 1: Then Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest, with all the remnant of the people, _(obeyed)_ the voice of the, _(Lord their God)_, and the words of _(Haggai)_ the prophet.

Haggai 1: Then Haggai, the Lord's _(messenger)_, spoke the Lord's message to the people saying _(I am with you)_, says the Lord.

Haggai 2: Yet now be _(strong)_, Zerubbabel. says the Lord; and be _(strong)_ Joshua, son Jehozadak, the high priest; and be _(strong)_ all you people of the land, says the Lord, and _(work)_ for _(I)_ am with you, says the Lord of hosts.

Haggai 2: If one carries holy meat in the fold of his garment, and with the edge he touches _(bread)_ or _(stew)_, _(wine)_ or _(oil)_, or any _(food)_, will it become holy?

Haggai 2: So is this _(people)_, and so is this _(nation)_ before Me says the Lord, and so is every _(work)_ of their _(hands)_; and what they off there is _(unclean)_.

Haggai 2: I will _(shake)_ Heaven and Earth.

Haggai 2: I will overthrow the throne of _(kingdoms)_ ; I will destroy the _(strength)_ of the Gentile kingdoms.

Haggai 2: I will make you like my _(signet ring)_, for I have chosen you declares the _(Lord Almighty)_.

Discussion: Spend some time discussing the scriptures you discovered. What new thing did you learn from God's word? What impressed you about how God used Zephaniah and Haggai? How do you view your service to God in light of what you have learned about the people of Judah? How can you guard your own heart from turning away from the work of God?

Prayer: Close in prayer thanking God for His provision and for all that you have learned and the fun you had with your family.