

Joshua 7:10-11

10 The Lord said to Joshua, "Get up! Why have you fallen on your face? 11 Israel has sinned; they have transgressed my covenant that I commanded them; they have taken some of the devoted things; they have stolen and lied and put them among their own belongings.

20 And Achan answered Joshua, "Truly I have sinned against the Lord God of Israel, and this is what I did: 21 when I saw among the spoil a beautiful cloak from Shinar, and 200 shekels of silver, and a bar of gold weighing 50 shekels, then I coveted them and took them. And see, they are hidden in the earth inside my tent, with the silver underneath."

Summary

God commanded Joshua and the Israelites to destroy one of the wicked nations who were living in the Promised land. God clearly stated that unlike other nations who win a battle, they are not to take any of the spoil (treasure or wealth from the conquered nation.) However, one of the Israelites secretly took some of the spoil that God commanded to be destroyed.

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Haggai 1:4-6

4 "Is it a time for you yourselves to dwell in your paneled houses, while this house lies in ruins? 5 Now, therefore, thus says the Lord of hosts: Consider your ways. 6 You have sown much, and harvested little. You eat, but you never have enough; you drink, but you never have your fill. You clothe yourselves, but no one is warm. And he who earns wages does so to put them into a bag with holes.

Summary

God speaks through one of His prophets to correct the nation of Israel when their focus was on their own homes and they neglected the Temple of the Lord.

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Acts 4:32-33

32 Now the full number of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one said that any of the things that belonged to him was his own, but they had everything in common. 33 And with great power the apostles were giving their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all.

Summary

The believers in the early Church demonstrated God's power in their lives in the way they were united in their care for each other.

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Getting Started

What are some of things in life that shape your mood, the way you think, and the way you act?

Watch Transform Video – Week 2

Being Shaped By The Potter *(Group Discussion)*

- What similarities do you see between the stories in Joshua and Haggai? Are there any differences? What do these passages reveal about the heart of the people?

- What is different in the passage from Acts than the first two? Why do you think it is different?

- The families we grew up in and the society that we live in has shaped who we are. Many times we don't even realize how we have been influenced. What kind of molds does culture try to squeeze us into (Romans 12:1-2) that go against the life that God has for us? What are the most common "worldly values" that are adopted by people (believers and unbelievers)?

- We all struggle with looking at life as a consumer. In the video, Jason shares that we need to move from “me to we,” or from consumerism to community. How do we start moving toward others? What do you think needs to change?

- What personal fears or obstacles must be overcome to make the shift from self to others? What is the benefit of making a commitment to something together as a community?

- Generosity is a tool God uses to transform our hearts and focus. In fact, when Jesus was approached by a man known as “the rich young ruler,” Jesus saw that his riches and self focus were keeping him from growing spiritually. Jesus called him to give it all away. How can our step of greater generosity impact our relationship with Jesus?

On The Potter’s Wheel *(Personal Reflection)*

We are often tempted to stay in our own small worlds, caring only for ourselves and what affects us in our everyday lives. But, God is calling us to more - to turn our hearts toward others and to be a part of something bigger than ourselves. Take some time this week to ask the Lord where He would like for you to step into community and join with others to make a bigger impact in the lives of the people around you.