**Building Strong Faith - Lessons from Haggai**

**Lesson 2: Invest generously**

**Notes to accompany teaching or as stand alone**

**Welcome** – If you were given £1 million how would you spend it? If you were given £10,000 how would you spend it? If you were given £1000 how would you spend it? If you were given £100 how would you spend it?

**Word -** Read Haggai 1 :7-11

This chapter calls us to invest in building God’s temple.

1 Corinthians 3:9-15 tells us that we together are God’s temple. The church is God’s temple.

What do you think it means for us to build/invest in this temple (the church) with gold and silver? What do you think the context of the passage implies?

c.f. Ephesians 2:19-22; 4:11-16

For me, from this passage it means to

Invest in sharing the gospel

Invest in the teaching and preaching of the word

Invest in using spiritual gifts

Invest in discipling and loving one another.

How as a church do we invest money, gifts and time in these things?

How as an individual do you invest money, gifts and time in these things?

We often talking about tithes and offerings. What do you understand by these and what does it mean to you?

How do you think God is asking you to use your money to invest in these areas?

***Hebrews 11:8-19***

The bible character that best epitomises investment for me is Abraham. What do you know about Abraham and what he invested in following God?

He invested his future – Genesis 12:1

He invested his finances – Genesis 13:8-9; 14:20

He invested his flesh – Genesis 17:9-11

He invested his family – Genesis 22:2

What does Hebrews 11 tell us why Abraham invested/sacrificed so much in following God?

What is the motivation for us to invest/sacrifice for the church?

What investment is the Lord asking you to make into church? Future? Finances? Flesh? Family?

What will you decide to invest? Take action today.

**Worship**

Spend some time worshipping together. Explore how you as a small group can worship together. As at this time, these groups may be the easiest place to worship. Do you have musicians? How can you explore and exercise spiritual gifts? How can you use scripture to enable your worship? What about YouTube clips? How can you use your bodies in worship?

**Witness**

What non-Christian family and friends do you see the Lord softening and opening up to him in these strange times? Commit to pray for them. Perhaps make a brick (cube) and write on the 6 faces – 4 people you want to bring into the household of God, top face pray for WBC and bottom face a mission organisation.