



March Sermon Series:

Prioritize Your Faith

Make God Your

Top Priority

“Your priorities must be God first, God second, and God third, until your life is continually face to face with God.”

--Oswald Chamber

*But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His
righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto
you.*

Matthew 6:33

Lesson One:
Putting First Things First



Haggai
Chapter 1:1-9

In the second year of King Darius, on the first day of the sixth month, the word of the Lord came through the prophet Haggai to Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua son of Jozadak, the high priest: This is what the Lord Almighty says: “These people say, ‘The time has not yet come to rebuild the Lord’s house.’”

Haggai 1:1-9

Then the word of the Lord came through the prophet Haggai: “Is it a time for you yourselves to be living in your paneled houses, while this house remains a ruin?” Now this is what the Lord Almighty says: “Give careful thought to your ways. You have planted much but harvested little. You eat, but never have enough. You drink, but never have your fill. You put on clothes that are not warm.

You earn wages, only to put them in a purse with holes in it.” This is what the Lord Almighty says: “Give careful thought to your ways. Go up into the mountains and bring down timber and build my house, so that I may take pleasure in it and be honored,” says the Lord.

“You expected much, but see, it turned out to be little. What you brought home, I blew away. Why?” declares the Lord Almighty. “Because of My house, which remains a ruin, while each of you is busy with your own house.”

1. STOP MAKING EXCUSES.

Haggai 1:2

"The skin of a reason stuffed with a lie."

"I never knew a man who was good at making excuses who was good at anything else."

--Benjamin Franklin

“Success occurs when your dreams get bigger than your excuses.”

2. CEASE BEING SELFISH.

Haggai 1:3-4

*The word of the LORD came through Haggai the prophet:
Is it a time for you yourselves to live in your paneled
houses, while this house lies in ruins?*

Haggai 1:3-4

*“Selfishness is a many-headed monster.
It is, in a sense, the most destructive
disease of the human soul. Absolutely
nobody on this planet except for Jesus
escapes the disease of selfishness.”*

Put to death, therefore, whatever is worldly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry.

Colossians 3:5

He died for all, so that those who live should no longer live for themselves, but only for Him who died and was raised to life for their sake.

II Corinthians 5:15

“Self-centered people have only one topic to talk about-themselves.”

3. DON'T MISS GOD'S BLESSINGS.

Haggai 1:5-6

"Now, the LORD of Hosts says this: Think carefully about your ways: You have planted much but harvested little. You eat but never have enough to be satisfied. You drink but never have enough to become drunk. You put on clothes but never have enough to get warm. The wage earner puts his wages into a bag with a hole in it"

Haggai 1:5-6

*What happens in your HEART affects
every other part of your life.*

4. TAKE TIME TO EVALUATE.

Haggai 1:5,7

"The unexamined life is not worth living."

--Socrates

How will we know that God is
first place?

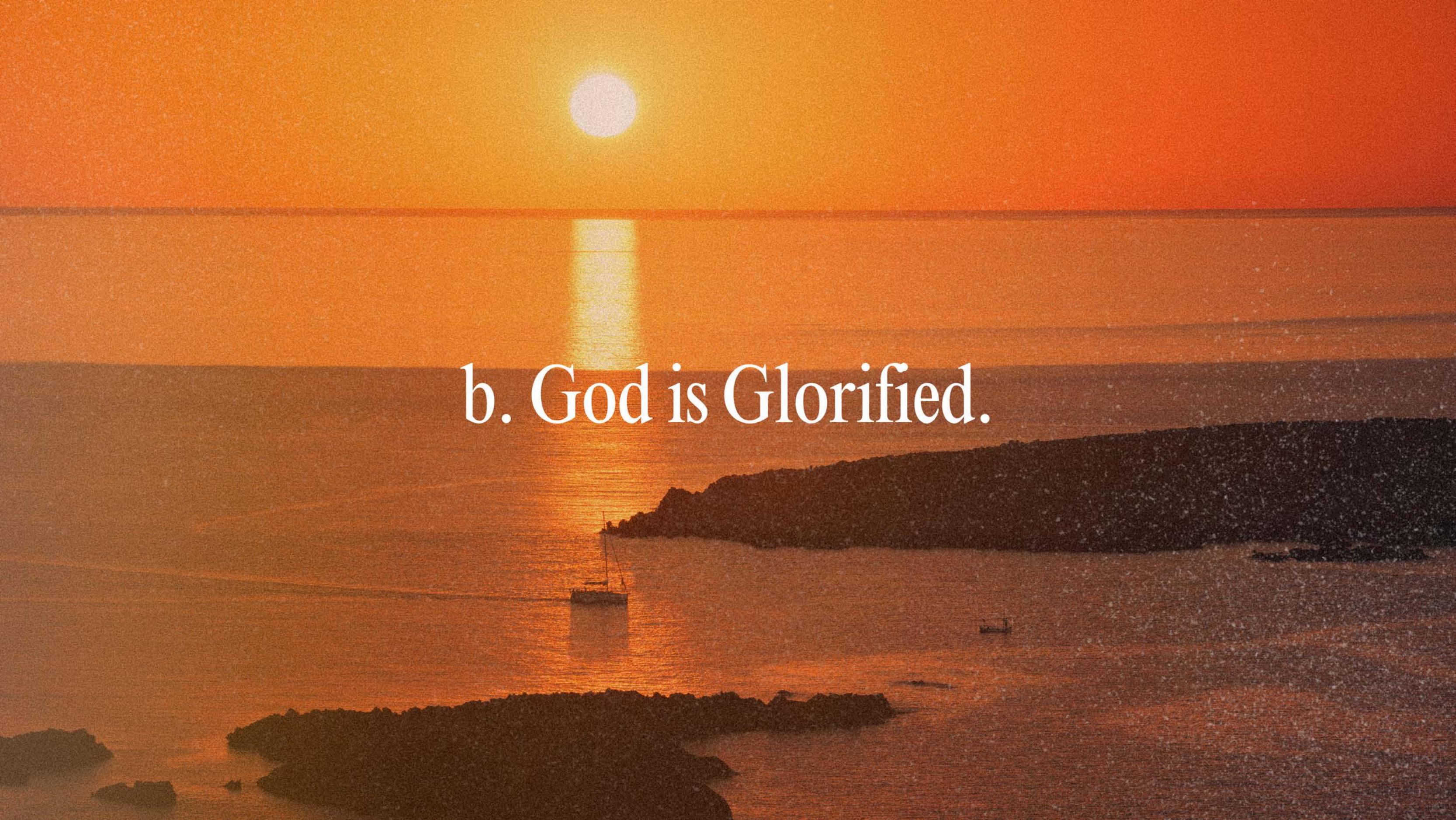
THREE INDICATIONS:

A serene sunset scene over a body of water. The sun is a bright, glowing orb in the upper center, casting a shimmering path of light across the water's surface. The sky transitions from a deep orange near the horizon to a lighter, hazy yellow at the top. In the foreground, dark, silhouetted rocks and a small boat are visible on the water. The overall mood is peaceful and contemplative.

a. We are Active in the Right Things.
Haggai 1:8

Go up into the hills, bring down lumber, and build the house. Then I will be pleased with it and be glorified, says the LORD.

Haggai 1:8

A serene sunset scene over a body of water. The sun is a bright, glowing orb in the upper center, casting a shimmering path of light across the water's surface. The sky transitions from a deep orange near the horizon to a lighter, hazy yellow at the top. In the foreground, dark, silhouetted rocks and a small boat are visible on the water. The overall mood is peaceful and contemplative.

b. God is Glorified.

A serene sunset scene over a body of water. The sun is a bright, glowing orb in the upper center, casting a long, shimmering reflection down the water's surface. The sky transitions from a deep orange near the horizon to a lighter, hazy yellow at the top. In the foreground, dark, silhouetted rocks and a small boat are visible on the water. The overall mood is peaceful and contemplative.

c. God Blesses Us.
Haggai 1:13

When the people obeyed, God sent word: "I am with you."

Haggai 1:13



*Put the Biggest
Rock in First!*