

# FLEURIEU EDGE

## Life Lab

Hurricane Andrew struck the US mainland in August 1992. As residents tried to cope with the destruction, scientists turned Florida into a huge laboratory. Teams of researchers descended on the state to measure the storm's impact on everything from building materials to tropical fish. Psychologists analyzed the hurricane's influence on children. Geographers mapped sunken boats. Marine scientists cataloged the damage done to reefs, sea grass, and mangroves. Criminologists studied price-gouging and the breakdowns of social order.

The prophets of the Bible did a similar evaluation after spiritual disasters. They documented the personal, social, and environmental effects of turning away from the one true God (Isaiah 1:1-9; Haggai 1:2-7).

In behalf of a loving God, Haggai urged his neighbors to give careful attention to what had happened. He noted the priority they were giving to their own comforts and wanted them to observe how dissatisfied and empty they were still were.

If God didn't care, He wouldn't ask us to consider the time and effort we are spending on diminishing returns. If He didn't love us, He couldn't remind us of all that He has given us. God sees what has happened to us and know how much we need to focus on Him today.

*Mart De Haan*

**Haggai 1:2-7** <sup>2</sup>*This is what the Lord Almighty says: "These people say, 'The time has not yet come to rebuild the Lord's house.'"*

<sup>3</sup>*Then the word of the Lord came through the prophet Haggai: <sup>4</sup>"Is it a time for you yourselves to be living in your paneled houses, while this house remains a ruin?"*

<sup>5</sup>*Now this is what the Lord Almighty says: "Give careful thought to your ways. <sup>6</sup>You have planted much, but harvested little. You eat, but never have enough. You drink, but never have your fill. You put on clothes, but are not warm. You earn wages, only to put them in a purse with holes in it."*

<sup>7</sup>*This is what the Lord Almighty says: "Give careful thought to your ways." (NIV)*

**"Doing Life Together"**



## Fleurieu Family Church

Service Time: 10am 54 Hill St, Pt Elliot

w: [2fc.org.au](http://2fc.org.au)

e: [mail@fleurieufamilychurch.com.au](mailto:mail@fleurieufamilychurch.com.au)

m: 0484 866 117