Series: Habakkuk

Message: Where are you God? May 29, 2011

### HABAKKUK'S DRIVING QUESTION

# WHY DOESN'T GOD SEEM FAIR?

### HABAKKUK'S PROBLEMS WITH GOD

- 1) YOU DON'T SEEM TO CARE.
- 2) YOU AREN'T DOING MUCH WHEN YOU COULD.
- 3) WHAT YOU ARE DOING DOESN'T SEEM FAIR.

#### **GOD'S RESPONSE**

"Look at the nations and watch- and be utterly amazed. For I am going to do something in your days that you would not believe, even if you were told. Habakkuk 1:5

A COMMITTED MATURING BELIEVER CAN EXPRESS SIMULTANEOUS QUESTIONS AND FAITH.

## **NEXT STEPS**

Use these study questions to turn a message into a conversation. Join with a life group and continue to grow by using these study questions this week.

#### **Discussion Questions**

- 1) If God would answer one question what would you ask Him?
- 2) Henry Blackaby wrote about what he called a "crisis of belief." Describe a time when, like Habakkuk, you experienced a crisis of belief.
- 3) Where would you say you are with God? What is God teaching you?

# **Going Deeper**

## Habakkuk's question:

Read Habakkuk 1:2-4

**Objective:** To trust God with our frustrations, while also trusting His timing and His purposes.

How would you describe Habakkuk's mood in this passage? What seems to be his driving passion here?

Describe a time when you've had similar feelings. In those moments, did you have this kind of frank and raw conversation with God? Why or why not?

## God's response to Habakkuk's questions:

Read Habakkuk 1:6

#### Habakkuk's reaction:

Read Habakkuk 1:12-13

Why do you think Habakkuk felt so shocked by God's response?

When and where do you see injustices like these today?

Describe a time when you felt a sense of "injustice" similar to Habakkuk's.

Read Habakkuk 2:1

How hard do you think it must have been for Habakkuk to wait on God's timing?

In your past experience, how has waiting on God's timing affected your attitudes toward God and the circumstances?

Is there some area of your life where you are struggling to wait on God's timing, frustrated by His answers or confused by apparent injustice?

Take a few minutes in your group to have an honest personal conversation with God about your struggles, remember...God has broad shoulders and a loving spirit. He is interested in what you have to say! (Pray silently for a few minutes, then pray together as a group)

# For Further Study

If you could talk with one prominent person, whom would you choose and what would you discuss?

What did Habakkuk receive? (1:1)

About what was the prophet distressed? (1:2-4)

How did God answer Habakkuk's complaint? (1:5-11)

Why was the prophet perplexed and bewildered? (1:12-17)

When people suffer because of violence and injustice, how do you feel?

God used the ungodly Babylonians to punish Israel. How does God speak to Christians through the actions of pagans nowadays?

When have you been perplexed about why God allowed something to happen?

When can you take time this week to be open and honest with the Lord about some of your deepest concerns or frustrations?