

# THE BOOK OF HABAKKUK

## D-Group Curriculum



# Introduction

## An Introduction to Habakkuk

Welcome to our D-Group Curriculum on the book of Habakkuk!

Habakkuk was a prophet who lived prior to the time that the Jews were exiled to Babylon. He saw the wickedness of God's chosen people and was so disturbed that he lamented to God about it. Like many of us, Habakkuk seemed to have a difficult time reconciling the sovereignty of God with the wickedness he saw in his society.

God responded to Habakkuk's lament, but not quite the way Habakkuk thought he would. God told Habakkuk that he saw everything the people were doing and that he was going to send the Chaldeans to discipline his chosen people. Habakkuk took issue with God's means and method because the Chaldeans were even more wicked than the Jews. However, God tells Habakkuk that he would eventually save his people and punish the Chaldeans for their wickedness. God also reminds Habakkuk that even though he didn't see all of this happening at the time, *the righteous shall live by faith* (Habakkuk 2:4). By the end of chapter 3, we see that Habakkuk begins to model what it means for the righteous to live by faith as he determines to patiently wait for God to fulfill his Word...even when it seems like it's not happening.

Like Habakkuk, we live in a society where it may often seem like God is overlooking evil and wicked people. We might even have the some of the same concerns with our society as Habakkuk had with the Jews. We ourselves may sometimes find it difficult to reconcile God's sovereignty with what we see happening before our eyes. We may even ask God, "How long?" This is why the book of Habakkuk is still relevant and helpful for us today. It reminds us that God is in control no matter how difficult our circumstances may seem. His methods and means may be different than ours, but we can trust him and wait patiently for him to fulfill his Word just as he promised. Regardless of what happens here on earth, God will eventually save his people and punish his enemies through his *anointed one*. (Habakkuk 3:13)

# Week 1

## Habakkuk Chapter 1

**Icebreaker:** *Describe a time in your life when you were praying to God for something but it seemed like He was not hearing your prayer(s). What was the outcome?*

**Read Habakkuk Chapter 1 and answer the following questions with your group:**

*What stands out to you the most in chapter 1?*

*What seems to be Habakkuk's main concern(s)?*

*How would you describe Habakkuk's emotional state when he asked God, "How long?" Have you ever asked God, "How long?" What was the issue for you?*

*What is the difference between doubting God and waiting to understand God's purposes? Give an example from the Bible or your own life.*

*What are some lessons we can learn from Habakkuk as it pertains to expressing our concerns to God?*

# Week 2

## Habakkuk Chapter 2

**Icebreaker:** *Describe a time in your life when God answered your prayer in a different way than you expected him to. What did you learn about God through that experience?*

**Read Habakkuk Chapter 2 and answer the following questions with your group:**

*What stands out to you the most about God's response to Habakkuk in Chapter 2?*

*Do you find it difficult to wait on God to answer your prayer? Why or Why not?*

*What are some things we learn about God in Habakkuk Chapters 1 and 2? Which of these do you find the most concerning? Which of these do you find the most comforting? Explain your answers to the group.*

*What are some things you've been praying about that you have been waiting a long time for God to answer?*

*How can we keep ourselves and others from becoming discouraged while we patiently wait on God to answer our prayers and/or act on our behalf?*

# Week 3

## Habakkuk Chapter 3

**Icebreaker:** Which do you find harder to accept...waiting a long time for God to act or not getting the answer you were hoping for? Explain your answer to the group.

**Read Habakkuk Chapter 3 and answer the following questions with your group:**

*What stands out to you the most about God's response to Habakkuk in Chapter 3?*

*How has Habakkuk's attitude changed from chapters 1 and 2? What changed him—was it more information or a change of heart...and what can we learn from this?*

*What kind of response did Habakkuk have to the thought of the coming judgments? What have you read in Scripture that affects you the most deeply?*

*Why do you think Habakkuk determined to praise the LORD even though the situation had not changed? (cf. verses 16-19)*

*What lessons can we take away from Habakkuk's decision to wait patiently in the face of such difficult trials?*