



Holy Trinity
Combe Down

Sermon Questions for Homegroups

Rejoicing in Hard Times. Habakkuk 3:1-19

1 Our God is a good God. Share, in twos, a time when the Lord delighted you with an amazing answer to prayer or blessed you in some way beyond your expectations. Feedback to the main group.

2 Is there anyone in the group that can share a time when they really enjoyed God's presence even in the midst of difficulties? Did He enable you to *walk on the heights*? 3:19

3 We have all suffered at some stage and suffering changes us. In two's discuss how suffering has affected and changed your life so far. Be honest and ready to be vulnerable. What changes have you seen?

4 Look at v 2, Habakkuk stands in awe of the Lord and all He has done and asks Him to repeat his mighty acts. As a challenge, give yourselves two minutes only to scan v 3-15 and see how many words you can find that describe the awesome-ness of God e.g. His glory, His wrath etc.

5 Habakkuk was fed up with the people of Israel doing wrong and had questioned the way that God was going to bring them to justice using the Babylonians. Read v17 which describes the utter annihilation that is going to come. Then look at v16 which shows Habakkuk's panic attack/ anxiety and worry. When have we felt something like this and how did we deal with it?

6 **Slow Down.** Habakkuk's way of dealing with it is to say *'Yet will I wait patiently for the day of calamity.'* 'Waiting patiently' here means to be filled with deep peace and repose not demanding of the Lord instant answers to your prayers. Despite his anxiety he was still filled with calm. What practical steps can you take to take time out with God, to sit with him, spend time in his presence and study/**repeat** the scriptures? (e.g. making homegroup a higher priority?) How can you actively **be** in His presence during your busy days **remembering** what He has done for you in the past?

7 What do you consider are two of the best things to consider and sit with when remembering what Jesus has done for us? See Luke 10: 17-20.

8 **Choose.** In v18 Habakkuk says *'I will rejoice.....I will be joyful in God my Saviour'*. In two's discuss how easy/difficult you find it to choose to do things when circumstances are

against you. As a group think of ways that would remind you to choose to rejoice when times are hard.

9 We find it hard to slow down, remember and choose in our own strength but we don't have to. Read v19. What does sovereign mean? How do we access strength from the Lord which will enable us to tread on the heights?

10 Read v 16-19 together slowly or light a candle and sit for a few minutes really considering these incredible verses individually and then let your thoughts lead the group into prayer, asking the Lord for the presence of His Holy Spirit to fill each one of you to enable you to rejoice in hard times when they come.

Pray for the needs of your group after this.

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