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**A STUDY IN HABAKKUK**



## WEEK ONE

by Farrell Lemings

Have you ever been in a difficult, adverse place that made you feel like God was absent? Or have you found yourself in a situation where there was an injustice playing out and it seemed like God was not acting when you knew He could? More than likely you have had those experiences and they can leave you wondering or even questioning God.

I remember a time in my own life when Sharlot and I were not able to conceive. It seemed like everyone else was pregnant, but it was not happening for us. I cried out to God and even reminded Him of the promises of His Word, but there was still no life in the womb. As I struggled with God, we endured fifteen years of infertility. But I remember the day that I went from questioning to embracing. I recall a time of prayer in which I told God I was confident of His plan and trusted that He was working for our good, even if we didn't understand it. Shortly after that prayer, we received a call and were blessed to adopt our son, Caleb. Then two years later, out of the blue, we received a call and were blessed to adopt our daughter, Grace. God blessed us with a family in a way greater than I could have ever imagined.

Setbacks, adversity, and difficulties are common to life. How we respond to them will determine whether we move forward in growth or get stuck in bitterness, despair, and regret. Rather than losing hope, we need to embrace the struggle. God is good and is working for our good, even if we can't see it or understand it.

Habakkuk is a prophet of God who wrote to the people of Judah around 606 BC. He was

perplexed by the injustice and evil of his own people and God’s lack of action. But then God revealed He was going to use the wicked Babylonians to bring judgment on the people of Judah, which was even more confusing. Habakkuk didn’t understand why God didn’t do something to right the wrongs and bring relief.

It is interesting that “Habakkuk” means both to wrestle and to embrace. He found himself wrestling with what he didn’t understand and the apparent inequity of the situation. But he also embraced the truth of who God is and what He is doing.

**As committed believers, we can both wrestle with honest questions and embrace a genuine faith in God.**

As you find yourself in a crisis of belief, be confident that God’s plan for your life is greater than your present circumstances. He is at work to bring good for you even if you can’t see it happening in your present reality. Like Habakkuk, be willing to engage in the struggle while embracing and pursuing God in the process.

## QUESTIONS

Read Habakkuk 1

When God seems to be absent and not working the way you thought He would what is your response?

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What do you think it looks like to wrestle with God in an area that is troubling in your life?

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Do you believe it is ever okay to question God? \_\_\_\_\_

What questions do you have for God right now?

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