

QUESTIONS FOR SMALL GROUPS

God, how long do I have to cry out for help before you listen? Hab 1:2 (the Message)

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

1. • How would you describe Habakkuk's mood in this passage? What seems to be his driving passion here?
2. • 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?

Read God's response to Habakkuk's questions: I am raising up the Babylonians to be a new power on the world scene. They are a cruel and violent nation who will march across the world and conquer it.. Hab 1:6 (NLT)

Read Habakkuk's reaction: God, you chose Babylonians for your judgment work? ...You gave them the job of discipline? But you can't be serious! You can't condone evil! So why don't you do something about this? Why are you silent now? Hab 1:12-13 (the Message)

1. • Why do you think Habakkuk felt so shocked by God's response?
2. • When and where do you see injustices like these today?
3. • Describe a time when you felt a sense of "injustice" similar to Habakkuk's.

Read Habakkuk's next words: I'll wait to see what God says, how he'll answer my complaint. Hab 2:1 (NLT)

1. • How hard do you think it must have been for Habakkuk to wait on God's timing?
2. • In your past experience, how has waiting on God's timing affected your attitudes toward God and the circumstances?
3. • 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?
4. • Now take the next few minutes 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)