

Sermon-Based Discussion Questions
May 5th, 2019

ICE BREAKER QUESTIONS:

What was a highlight from this past week?

What was a challenge?

LIVING HOPE – Wishful Thinking?

This week we talked about having hope in the midst of seasons of waiting. We have looked at how an Old Testament prophet named Habakkuk looked at the world and had a hard time reconciling what he believed to be true about the goodness of God and the pain, suffering, and injustice in the world. As Habakkuk asked his questions, as he EMBRACED what he believed about the goodness of God AND as he wrestled with his doubts, disappointments, and discouragement, he had to do something very hard...WAIT.

Did you grow up in an environment where you felt safe to bring doubts and questions to God?

How do you think that influences your view of God today?

READ: Habakkuk 2:1 *“I will stand at my watch and station myself on the ramparts; I will look to see what he [God] will say to me ...”*

Habakkuk made the choice put himself in a place where he focused on listening to God and watch where God was working. What does it look like for you to do that in your life? What does it look like for you to “stand your watch...to look and see what He (God) will say to you?”

What could you do to make more room for listening?

READ: Habakkuk 2:2 *“Then the LORD replied: “Write down the revelation and make it plain on tablets ...”*

Why do you think it could be important to WRITE down what God is teaching you? What are some ways you can do that?

Habakkuk 2:3 *“For the revelation awaits an appointed time; it speaks of the end and will not prove false. **Though it linger, wait for it; it will certainly come and will not delay.**”*

What do you think is the hardest thing about waiting?

Share about a time when you either waited on God or tried to force His timing. What did you learn?

CS Lewis said “I am sure that God keep no one waiting unless he sees that it is GOOD for them to WAIT.” How could it be good to wait?

Is there an area in your life where you are waiting?

Have you ever observed any “GOOD” that came from waiting in your life? Any ways God used WAITING for your good or the good of others?

READ Habakkuk 2:4 *“See, the enemy is puffed up; his desires are not upright—**but the righteous person will live by his faithfulness**”*

Doug said that an important question in each and every moment, good or bad, is to ask: **“What does FAITHFULNESS look like in this moment?”** What does faithfulness look like for you in this season of life?

Habakkuk made this statement in the midst of a dark and challenging season of his life: **Habakkuk 2:20 NLT** *“But the LORD is in his holy temple. ...”* His HOPE wasn’t just in the result he wanted. His HOPE was in the Character and goodness of God. Are you more likely to place your faith in a result you want or in God's character?

Elizabeth Elliot said *“The secret is Christ in me, not me in a different set of circumstances.”* We need to decide: “My hope is in Christ, NOT in my circumstances.” What would it look like for you to make that choice right now in your life?

TAKING IT HOME:

What is your application for your life from this week’s message?

CLOSING PRAYER:

Spend some time praying for each other.

****Challenge everyone to pray for each other throughout the week.*