Part 1 – How Long? **Pastor Tom Kang**

Icebreaker: If you could time travel (to the past or future) to a specific moment or event, where would you go?

1. The word "oracle" (in Hebrew – "massa'" literally means a heavy load, a weight, a burden. Read Habakkuk 1 together as a group keeping this "heaviness" in mind. What verses or words stood out or speak to you?

2. Reflect on Habakkuk 1:2 (ESV): O Lord, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not hear? Or cry to you "Violence!" and you will not save? (Similarly Psalm 13:1 & Psalm 22:2). Is there a moment or circumstance in which you prayed this prayer? Or wish you wrestled with God in this way?

3. Habakkuk's lament was just as much COMMUNAL as it was PERSONAL. Are there any communal events/issues (corruption, broken systems, etc) that are on your heart?

4. God answered Habakkuk's prayer by "raising up the Chaldeans" (v.6). Was there a time when God answered your prayer in an unexpected way or in a way that you didn't want? Did you continue to push back and wrestle like Habakkuk?

5. God is the God of "Come & See what I am doing". He is the God of "Trust me. Watch me. Follow me." Is there an area in your life in which you need to place this trust on Him?

6. Like Habakkuk, Jesus also wrestles with God but with the heavy load and burden of the cross. Because of Jesus, we are able to cry out "How long, O Lord" and know that God cannot leave us even if we hear nothing. How does this good news of the gospel change how you pray or even wrestle with God?

7. Pastor Tom closes with what to do with our lament, questions, prayers… Which of the following resonates with you most? Share how you might apply this throughout the week and pray over it as a group.
   (1) Don't pretend
   (2) Don't walk away
   (3) Wrestling, but waiting. Lamenting, but listening. Struggling, but staying. (Habakkuk 2:1 which will be unpacked more next week)