

Offer Hope. Grow in Community. Be the Church.

January 23, 2021 Youth Sunday Big Idea: Joyful Promises Habakkuk 3:17-19

Though the fig tree does not bud and there are no grapes on the vines, though the olive crop fails and the fields produce no food, though there are no sheep in the pen and no cattle in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will be joyful in God my Savior. The Sovereign LORD is my strength; he makes my feet like the feet of a deer, he enables me to tread on the heights.

(Habakkuk 3:17-19)

Step 1: Hard Circumstances

Why do we have them?

The fruit of your womb will be cursed, and the crops of your land, and the calves of your herds and the lambs of your flocks.

(Deuteronomy 28:18)

What do they do to us?

Step 2: How Do I Respond?

"It is hard for us to take His promises seriously. Giving them real traction is how we live our lives." (Carl Vereen)

Jesus answered him, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise." (Luke 23:43)

And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever - the Spirit of truth.

(John 14:16-17)

Step 3: The Feet Change

He who did not spare His own Son, but gave Him up for us all—how will He not also, along with Him, graciously give us all things?

(Romans 8:32)

"Though all outward means of support should fail, yet will I still have a firm confidence in the power, goodness, and faithfulness of God, that He will preserve me, and supply me with all things necessary; and therefore, amidst the most threatening appearances of affairs, I shall still preserve inward peace and serenity of mind, as trusting in Him in whom is everlasting strength."

(Benson Commentary)

"There are things we need to do His will, glorify His name, and make it safely into His joyful presence." (John Piper)

Application:

What does your heart tell you about the God you trust?

"Your answer will determine how you live in tough times. That is, do you have 'lead feet' always stuck in doubt? Or do you have nimble 'quick feet' like a deer, able to adjust because you know the next step will land upon the solid promises of GOD." (Carl Vereen)