

WHY, GOD?

HABAKKUK'S BURDEN



TEXT: Habakkuk 1:5-2:1

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Redeemer 101 and Baptism Class** – Sunday, February 10 a 4pm at FCS.
- **Amazon Wish List** – As our building is being completed, we have an Amazon Wish List with some items to help outfit the Redeemer Kid's rooms and a few other areas. Please visit www.redeemerchurch.com/nextsteps for more info. We are also accepting certain gently used items. Contact the church office for more info.

LEADING OFF...

1. Share a time when you've been surprised by something?
2. Why are we hesitant to share our shock and surprise over suffering that comes into our lives?

BIG IDEA: God is not surprised by your suffering.

Read Habakkuk 1:5

3. What kind of questions do we tend to ask in the midst of pain and suffering?
4. Has there ever been a time when in the midst of a trial, God got your attention and He revealed Himself to you?
5. God relates to us as a father relates to a young child. We often can't understand what He is doing, and wouldn't believe it if we could. Re-read verse 5. How are we, like children, to trust our Father even when we don't have answers and can't understand the answers we get?
6. Read 1 Thessalonians 4:13. How can we, as a biblical community, better help one another in times of trial?

Read Habakkuk 1:6-11

7. No doubt this is not the comfort and answers that Habakkuk wanted. How are we to receive hard answers from God?
8. What do these verses reveal about the heart and character of God?

Read Habakkuk 1:12

9. What does this verse teach us about Habakkuk?
10. What does this verse teach us about worship and how we sometimes misplace our worship?

Read Habakkuk 1:13

11. Habakkuk has turned from worship to leveling accusations against God. How do we sometimes do the same?
12. What kinds of injustices do you wrestle with?
13. When we stack our righteousness against an evil world and think we deserve better, what does this tell us about our view of sin?
14. Though we are sinners, Jesus came to save us. How should His kindness change the way we view pain and suffering all around us?

Read Habakkuk 2:1

15. Habakkuk's questions have turned from "why", to "what". He wants answers. Talk about Habakkuk's response to God.

Read Job 38:1-4, 16-18, 22-24; 39:1, 13-18

16. Discuss God's response to Job and make it personal to yourself. What do these verses speak to you?

17. What is God saying to us about His greatness and our smallness, and our inability to understand His ways?

Read Job 40:3-5

18. How does Job's response differ from Habakkuk's?

19. How can we, like Job, move from the "why" questions to the "who" questions?

WRAPPING UP...

Remember how Jesus' disciples did not understand why He would die, or even that He would.

20. On our darkest days, our hope is Jesus, not in understanding the problems around us. How can we better trust Him now, even though we don't understand?

One day God will bring suffering to an end. Let this encourage you.