



UNQUESTIONED ANSWERS, PART 2: GOD IS GOOD, ALL THE TIME

God is good, all the time. That proclamation is an *unquestioned answer* not because it is theologically suspect—it isn't—but because it risks sounding naive and at the very moment when life tells us the exact opposite. What do you do when you don't doubt God's *God-ness*, but you question His *goodness*? Our problem might be that our perspective is too narrow. We're only looking at what's right in front of us, and don't see the bigger picture.

BIG IDEA: To see the goodness of God, zoom out to see the big picture by remembering.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

** Remember the goal is to use the questions to generate discussion, not to complete every one.*

1. What are your first thoughts when you hear “God is good”?
2. What are some times in your life when you have struggled to believe that God is good?
3. During the message, Chris said, “*We rarely remember what God did in the light, but we never forget what God didn't do in the dark.*” To what extent is that statement true of you?
4. *With your Bible or Bible App, read Habakkuk 1:1-3, 2:1.*

¹ *This is the message that the prophet Habakkuk received in a vision.* ² *How long, O LORD, must I call for help? But you do not listen! “Violence is everywhere!” I cry, but you do not come to save.* ³ *Must I forever see these evil deeds? Why must I watch all this misery? Wherever I look, I see destruction and violence. I am surrounded by people who love to argue and fight.*

^{2:1} *I will climb up to my watchtower and stand at my guardpost. There I will wait to see what the LORD says and how he will answer my complaint.* *Habakkuk 1:1-3; 2:1 (NLT)*

5. Imagine being Habakkuk. How would you feel? What would your emotional condition be?
6. What kind of relationship do you think Habakkuk had with God? Do you think this gave him hope for the future? Why or why not?
7. Habakkuk learned to rely on God in the midst of life's trials. *With your Bible or YouVersion, read James 1:2-4 and 1 Peter 4:12-13.* According to James, How does our response to trials shape and form us to have the character God desires? What is God trying to do with your faith during your bottom-of-the-ninth moments?
8. Name a time when you questions the goodness and greatness of God because of your circumstances.

Habakkuk's problem was tunnel vision. It is our problem as well. We can get so focused on our circumstances and what's right in front of us that we start to see nothing else. We look through our tunnel of today and say, “God is not good. God is not great. If He was, then _____” We are only seeing what's right in front of us and we do not see the bigger picture. So God takes Habakkuk's perspective and widens it in Habakkuk 3.

Unquestioned



Answers

9. With your Bible or YouVersion, read Habakkuk 3:1 from the Amplified Bible.

¹ A PRAYER of Habakkuk the prophet, set to wild, enthusiastic, and triumphal music.

Habakkuk 3:1 (Amplified Bible)

Chris said that the definition of enthusiasm is comes from two Greek words: *en* (in) and *Theos* (God)—God in. To be enthusiastic about something means that you see God working in something. Where are some areas in which God may be setting the stage to work great things in your life? *Hint: many times, it's in the problem areas of our life!*

10. How does Habakkuk start chapter 1? How does he start chapter 3? Why can the once woeful Habakkuk afford to be so joyful? Has his situation and circumstances changed? What has changed?

11. Where do you see evidence of God's goodness in your life?

12. With your Bible or Bible App, read Habakkuk 3:17-18.

¹⁷ Even though the fig trees have no blossoms, and there are no grapes on the vines; even though the olive crop fails, and the fields lie empty and barren; even though the flocks die in the fields, and the cattle barns are empty, ¹⁸ yet I will rejoice in the LORD! I will be joyful in the God of my salvation!

Habakkuk 3:17-18 (NLT)

13. Has there been a time in your life when God gave you joy even though your circumstances appeared hopeless?

14. How can we share God's goodness with others while acknowledging the reality of pain and evil in our fallen world?

15. Name one thing you're thankful for that you have taken for granted in the past.

MOVING FORWARD

Habakkuk moved from hopelessness to joy over the 3 chapters of this book. In what areas of your life would you like God to take you from hopelessness to joy? What would have to change inside of you for you to move from hopelessness to joy? (Notice, I didn't ask, "What would have to change in your circumstances.")

CHANGING YOUR MIND

Even though the fig trees have no blossoms, and there are no grapes on the vines; even though the olive crop fails, and the fields lie empty and barren; even though the flocks die in the fields, and the cattle barns are empty, yet I will rejoice in the LORD! I will be joyful in the God of my salvation!

Habakkuk 3:17-18 (NLT)

