

Hope in the Dark Where Are You, God?

TALK IT OVER

Key Scripture

How long, LORD, must I call for help, but you do not listen? Or cry out to you, "Violence!" but you do not save? Why do you make me look at injustice? Why do you tolerate wrongdoing? Destruction and violence are before me; there is strife, and conflict abounds. Therefore the law is paralyzed, and justice never prevails. ...

Habakkuk 1:2-4 NIV

"Look at the nations and watch—and be utterly amazed. For I am going to do something in your days that you would not believe, even if you were told. I am raising up the Babylonians, that ruthless and impetuous people, who sweep across the whole earth to seize dwellings not their own. They are a feared and dreaded people ... they all come intent on violence. ..." Habakkuk 1:5-7, 9 NIV

LORD, are you not from everlasting? My God, my Holy One, you will never die. You, LORD, have appointed them to execute judgment; you, my Rock, have ordained them to punish. Your eyes are too pure to look on evil; you cannot tolerate wrongdoing. Why then do you tolerate the treacherous? Why are you silent while the wicked swallow up those more righteous than themselves?

Habakkuk 1:12-13 NIV

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Start talking. Find a conversation starter for your group.

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

Start thinking. Ask a question to get your group thinking.

- Why do you think it can feel scary to question God?
- How do you think questioning God can become a strengthening moment for your faith?

Start sharing. Choose a question to create openness.

- Read Habakkuk 1:2-4. Describe a time when you found yourself wrestling with God.
- During a time that was (or is) difficult, how did you (or do you) continue to embrace God in the middle of the trial?
- Who do you have around you to pray with you and support you? How can they be praying for you right now?

Start praying. Be bold and pray with power.

God, yes, we have questions for You, but we also embrace You. Help us, Father, to overcome the pain, doubt, and unbelief we're facing. We are choosing to trust You. We are choosing to accept the hope You've given us through Jesus. We love You. Amen.

Start doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week.

- Spend some time identifying things you might need to wrestle with God over so you can embrace His love for you.
- Ask someone to pray and stand with you as you let your pain, doubts, and difficulties drive you to God.
- Start the *Hope in the Dark* Bible Plan with your group: www.go2.lc/inthedark