

# The Potter's Christian Life Center

SERMON NOTES  
with Pastor Greg Formey



## Faith Without Answers

### Habakkuk 1:2-3

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Have you had seasons in your life when your prayers rose up, but answers did not seem to come down? Scripture is read, but comfort feels distant. Many believers silently ask whether God has withdrawn, or whether suffering has created a distance that faith cannot cross.

The Bible does not avoid those moments. It actually gives language to them.

Isaiah acknowledges something unsettling but honest. In God's wisdom, He conceals His work on our behalf.

Today we consider that the God who hides can hold us at the same time. He does not make His plans clear, but is very present in our troubles.

#### **LIFE WITHOUT ANSWERS**

Israel knew exile, loss, and deep confusion. They lived in seasons when God did not explain Himself, but was promising everlasting salvation. Scripture teaches that God may hide His ways, but He never hides His love.

Habakkuk lived during a season of moral collapse in Judah. Violence filled the streets. Justice failed. Wickedness went unchecked.

#### **Habakkuk 1:2-3**

**O LORD, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not hear? Or cry to you 'Violence!' and you will not save? Why do you make me see iniquity, and why do you idly look at wrong?** ESV

Habakkuk's emotional requests for God's intervention are taking place over a long period of time. His suffering came from watching his world unravel while God seemed silent.

#### **Habakkuk 1:13**

**"Why do you idly look at traitors and remain silent when the wicked swallows up the man more righteous than he?"** ESV

Instead of walking away, Habakkuk waits.

### **Habakkuk 2:1**

**I will take my stand at my watchpost and station myself on the tower, and look out to see what he will say to me, and what I will answer concerning my complaint. ESV**

God hides His method, but He holds the prophet close enough to keep him listening.

### **Habakkuk 3:17-18**

**17 Though the fig tree should not blossom, nor fruit be on the vines, the produce of the olive fail and the fields yield no food, the flock be cut off from the fold and there be no herd in the stalls, 18 yet I will rejoice in the Lord; I will take joy in the God of my salvation. ESV**

Where has God felt hidden in your life, and are you willing to believe He is still near in that place?

## **CLINGING TO GOD WITHOUT ANSWERS**

### **Hebrews 11:35-38**

**“Some were tortured, refusing to accept release... of whom the world was not worthy.” ESV**

These believers did not receive explanations. They received promises. God Himself testified about their faith.

### **Hebrews 11:39**

**And all these, though commended through their faith, did not receive what was promised. ESV**

A Christian nurse served faithfully in a war-torn region for decades. She buried friends, endured threats, and saw little visible fruit. Near the end of her life, she said, “God never explained why. He just stayed with me.

### **James 1:2-4**

**2 Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, 3 for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. 4 And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing. ESV**

Can you trust God's character when His plan remains unclear?

## **Conclusion**

God may hide His ways, but He never hides His love. Israel learned this in exile. Habakkuk learned it at the watchpost. The saints of Hebrews learned it through suffering.

### **Hebrews 11:40**

**“Since God had provided something better for us...” ESV**

God's story is still unfolding. And He is nearer than you think.