How Long, O Lord?

Waiting on God Habakkuk 2:1 February 4, 2024

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. - Habakkuk 2:1

I. HOPEFULLY WATCHING

- Habakkuk takes his stand. He will not watch and wait for further revelation from the Lord. There is little more he can do (Ex. 33:18-23; 1 Kings 19:9-11).
- Habakkuk is acting out his standing as a prophet. He will stand before God and his people. A covenant is at stake. Will God act in mercy, or will he enforce the stipulations of the covenant? (Deut. 28:15-68; Ps. 106.23; Isa. 21:6-8; Ezek. 22:30-31).
- Habakkuk is also preparing his own response to the rebuke he anticipates from the Lord. He is hopeful, yet also realistic (Rom. 11:22).

II. WAITING ON GOD

- God is not accountable to us. Nevertheless, we do well when we wait on him to reveal to us what is true and right (Ps. 27:13-14, 131:5).
- We have a hope for the future, we must learn to hope in that and practice patience (Rom. 8:18-25; 1 Cor. 4:5).
- Spiritual disciplines help us to grow up in the faith. They also teach us patience. Get to know God!

KNOW: As we wait on the Lord we grow in Christian maturity and understanding. We are watchful and patient. Our waiting most often looks like searching the Scriptures and prayer. It is also at times accompanied by times of solitude and silence.

DO: Wait on the Lord. Your faith will grow and so will your understanding.

Suggested Reading:

Spiritual Disciplines for the Christian Life by Donald Whitney (Available in the LifePoint Library).

The Pursuit of God by A.W. Tozer (Available in the LifePoint Library)

For Children:

That's When I Talk to God by Dan and Ali Morrow (Available in the LifePoint Library)

NEXT WEEK'S PREACHING TEXT: Habakkuk 2:2-5

Questions/Discovery Points for Life Groups/Families

Please Read Habakkuk 2:1

- What is Habakkuk waiting for?
- 2. What response is he expecting, do you think?
- 3. Is it okay for us to complain to God and then wait to hear his response? Where do we find or hear that response?
- 4. Why is Habakkuk perplexed by God?
- 5. What should we do when we are perplexed by God or by the events in our lives?
- 6. How do we wait on God? Share some of your practices.
- 7. How do we practice patience?