



**HATFIELD  
CHRISTIAN  
CHURCH**

## **LIFE GROUP GUIDELINE: TERM 3 WEEK 2**

**10 August 2017**

### **Faith in tough times**

'But the Lord is in His holy temple.  
Let all the earth be silent before Him.'

Habakkuk 2:20 (NASB)

#### **Icebreaker**

What was difficult for you this week, and what worked really well?

#### **Introduction**

Faith is believing that God will do what He said He will do. It is a response to a revelation of God. Habakkuk is the Old Testament book which is often quoted in the New Testament when referring to faith. In a nutshell, the book takes the following form: Habakkuk's first question; God's answer; Habakkuk's second question; God's answer; Habakkuk's song.

For an excellent overview of this significant book, watch the following clip from 'The Bible Project': <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OPMaRqGJPUU>

#### **Discussion**

- Habakkuk is only three chapters long. Take turns and read through it aloud in the group. Share the verse that stands out the most to you.
- The book opens with the question: 'How long, Lord, must I call for help, but you do not listen?' (Habakkuk 1:2).  
Have you ever felt like this? What situation were you facing?
- In the context of the book, Israel was breaking the covenant with God. This troubled Habakkuk and he asked God about it. God's answer, however, was not what Habakkuk expected (Habakkuk 1:5). God said that He was going to send judgement (tough times!). How does this challenge your view of God?
- How has God used 'tough times' in your life to accomplish good things? Share stories of how the Lord has redeemed difficult times for you.

- Habakkuk ends with a song of submission to God's will.  
Why does he use a song? *Because we carry songs in our heart.*  
What song/s do you sing in tough times?
- Paraphrase Habakkuk 3:17-18 so that it is relevant to your individual context.  
Share with one another.
- Habakkuk 3:19 basically indicates that we were made to thrive in the high places.  
Do you believe this?
- Can you identify four ways to nurture your faith in tough times?  
Which of these do you battle with the most?
  - *Cry out to God with a humble heart.*
  - *Wait humbly for His answer.*
  - *Confirm what God has said.*
  - *Stand in joyous faith.*

### **Prayer**

- 'But the Lord is in His holy temple...' (Habakkuk 2:20).  
Which situations in your life currently feel out of control?  
Where do you need to remind yourself that God is in control, and He has your best interests at heart?  
Share with the group and pray with one another for these things.
- The phrase 'I am with you' occurs at least 21 times in the NIV translation of the Bible. God promises that no matter what we go through that He is with us.  
Spend some time acknowledging His presence. Tell the Lord how meaningful His presence is to you.
- Pray for our country in this season of 'tough times'.

### **Bible reading challenge**

- Paraphrase the whole of Habakkuk 3 this week, and share it with one another via WhatsApp. Use your own words so that it is relevant to your situation, and all you are facing.