Dig Deeper into Habakkuk 1:1-11 for personal study and lifegroups...



Welcome to Habakkuk. He was a prophet who (probably!) lived around 600BC in the area of Jerusalem, just before the Babylonian attack. He faced violence and wrongdoing in his neighbourhood, and cried out to God for help, but got a surprising answer. Below are some questions to help get into the book and the first cycle of question and answer.

1) Look at the questions that Habakkuk asks in v2-3 (and if you like 1:12-13). What is the problem that Habakkuk is facing? How might people be asking similar questions in Covid?

2) "Many view questioning God as sinful, but Habakkuk and Job show this is not so. Rough passages in life can produce honest doubt and perplexity, and God condemns neither Job nor Habakkuk for expressing these doubts" (Quoted in the sermon from the IVP New Bible Commentary p841). What might an increased honesty with God look like in your life?

3) God was already at work with a surprising solution. What was it, and what questions does it raise? What did Habakkuk need to learn at this stage? What do you?!

[4) <u>Digging even deeper!</u> Paul quotes 1:5 in a speech in Pisidian Antioch in Acts 13:40-41. How does he use this quote to challenge his Jewish audience, and what extra layer of challenge does it bring for the times that we might depend on any religious background?]

Extra resources...

- The Bible Project's diagrammatic summary of Habakkuk is here (7 mins)
- Charlie's short video intro to the book is <u>here</u>. (4 mins)
- The first of a short Bible reflection on Habakkuk by Tim & Kathy Keller (7mins)
- "Help my Unbelief", <u>book</u> on doubt by Barnabas Piper.

