The Minor Prophets: Sin. Judgment. Restoration

Introduction:

Habakkuk 3

Habakkuk, as one friend put it, is a *one-trick-pony*. For three chapters, 56 verses, and 1,011 words the prophet has conveyed one sentiment. Even in the midst of bad and confusing circumstances, God is in control and we are to trust in him with patience. If your SG walks away from this study feeling like it was essentially the same as the last two weeks, then you successfully led them to the main point of all three chapters!

<u>This Week's Main Focus:</u> We can trust God who is in control even in the worst of circumstances.

Take a moment and remind your group where you have been over the last few weeks studying Habakkuk:

- Habakkuk 1:
 - The prophet asks God why he allows injustice among his people.
 - God replies that he is working to bring about repentance in his people.
 - God says that he will use the Babylonians to do this.
 - Habakkuk asks God why / how can you use such a wicked people to judge yours.
- Habakkuk 2:
 - The prophet commits to wait on the Lord and watch for his deliverance.
 - God tells Habakkuk his plan for judging the Babylonians, and to be patient.
- Habakkuk 3:
 - The prophet prays, in faith, and rejoices in God, his strength.

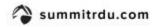
The godly wait on God; this is the final lesson from Habakkuk. God's people can see that he is already working in the midst of circumstances because he has said that he is. By faith we wait on God in the joy of his strength.

Introduction Questions:

1) What was your biggest take away from the sermon this weekend?

Bible Study Questions: (Read Habakkuk 3)

2) Habakkuk 3 is the prophet's prayer. What words and phrases does he use to communicate trust in God?



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3) Look at verse 2. How does reflecting on what God has done for his people in the past fuel our trust in his work in the present and future?

4) What scenario does the prophet paint in verse 17?

5) How does Habakkuk choose to rejoice in verses 17-19?

Group Application Questions:

6) Take a moment, assess, and share where you typically find your joy. Here are some helpful questions to discern where your joy comes from:

- What were you most excited about today?
- What are you most looking forward to next week?
- Where do you go for comfort when you are having a bad day?
- What do you talk about most with those closest to you?

7) The main take away from this week's study is that believers can trust in God in any circumstances. How can your small group point you toward faith in Jesus and away from discouragement this week?

Prayer:

- Have everyone in your group:
 - Thank God for how he is specifically working in their lives.
 - Ask God to give them more faith while he continues to work in their lives.

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