Think on These Things...

READ Habakkuk 1:1-17, 2:1-14, 3:15-19 together in preparation for your Group Discussion:
What insights, principles, or observations stood out to you from this week’s

Receiving the Message and Relating to the Study...
What main point[s] spoke to you the most from this week’s sermon?

HOW TO WALK ON THE HIGH HILLS!

*We live in a day where it seems people can get away with anything whether it’s bad behavior or breaking the law, cheating the system, corrupt practices and greedy misconduct. As Christians we may wonder “is God even paying attention?” This was Habakkuk’s complaint against God when he saw the injustice done in Judah. Pastor Shawn stated that Habakkuk is one man’s journey from doubting God, to debating God, and finally to defending God. Habakkuk shows us the path to joy in a fallen world.*

1. Habakkuk lived in a time after the great revival under King Josiah but now times have changed and the nation is falling down. Read Hab 1:1-4 and answer the following questions:

   a. What did Habakkuk see that was happening in his nation?
   b. How did Habakkuk respond to what he saw? (1:2)
   c. What was Habakkuk’s frustration?
   d. What are some things that you see in the political, corporate and Christian worlds that make you wonder if God is watching?
   e. How do you think that God ought to respond to these things?
   f. If God responded in the ways you just mentioned, would he be just? Why or why not?
2. Read Habakkuk 1:5-11 & 2:1-20 and answer the following questions.
   
a. What is God about to do that is so unbelievable? (1:5)
   
b. Who are these Chaldeans, describe them according to 1:6-10
   
c. Why is it so unbelievable to Habakkuk that God would use the Babylonians in judgment? Why is he confused? (1:12-13, 14-17)
   
d. In spite of the terrible circumstances what do we learn about God according to 2:14 and 20?
   
e. What would ultimately happen to Babylon for their cruelty? (Read 2:4)
      There are 5 woes pronounced against Babylon, what are they? (2:6,9,12,15,19)
   
f. How does this knowledge bring comfort?

Growing Deeper in God’s Word...Life Lessons:

3. Pastor Shawn described Habakkuk as a man who was honest with God and would wrestle with God in prayer when he didn’t understand the situation. Habakkuk gives us an example of how to walk on the High Hills in joy even when it seems the world is falling apart:
   
a. How could Habakkuk walk in joy knowing that judgment was coming?
   
b. Habakkuk learned to humbly wait for God’s answer, read 2:1-4 and describe what is happening here?
   
c. What is your typical pattern of prayer when making requests of God?
   
d. How does waiting factor into your prayer life?
   
e. Have you ever prayed and prayed but didn’t get the answer because you didn’t wait for God’s answer?

Applying God’s Word...What did you learn from this study and how does this personally speak to you? Discuss your answer with your group.

There are times when God does something that doesn’t make sense to us, just as it didn’t make sense to Habakkuk that God would use Babylon a wicked nation to bring judgment on Judah. In spite of this, Habakkuk knew that God was good and chose to trust Him in spite of circumstances. When we don’t understand, we must choose to trust God because “the just shall live by faith.” We remember that there is a time coming when “the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.” As your faith deepens you will learn to WALK ON THE HIGH HILLS OF JOY!

Remember to DESIRE the will of God, Remember the GOODNESS of God and Persevere in the WORSHIP of God! (1 Thess. 5:16-18 – Rejoice Always!)