

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

For the week of August 28-September 2, 2023

“WHEN THERE ARE MISSING PIECES”

GETTING STARTED

To the facilitator: Use this section to introduce the topic. If possible, give a brief recap of the sermon.

Share a memorable point, a spiritual lesson, a personal application, a question, or something that challenged you from the sermon last Sunday.

Have you ever forgotten someone’s name at the worst possible moment? How did you creatively avoid using their name in the conversation?

GROUP DISCUSSION

Read Habakkuk 1:12-2:1

1. How does Habakkuk describe God in verses 12? What do these say about how Habakkuk sees God’s nature and position as the Holy One? What is so significant about the personal nature of these words?
2. How do Habakkuk’s questions reflect the limitations of human understanding and perspective when it comes to God’s ways? How can we avoid drawing conclusions about God’s character solely based on our own interpretations of events or feelings about situations?
3. Habakkuk’s lament is a raw expression of his emotions. Have you ever openly approached God with genuine feelings, even if they include doubt, frustration or anger? What role does authentic communication with God play in deepening our relationship with him?
4. How does Habakkuk’s posture of “standing at my watchpost” suggest an active waiting rather than a passive one? What practical ways can we actively engage with God while waiting for his direction or answers to our questions?
5. What does “standing at the watchpost” mean to you personally? How can you apply this principle to your current circumstances? Take a moment to share your thoughts and insights, personal experiences, and/or frustrations when it comes to the practice of active waiting and listening.

6. Is waiting challenging for you? Can you share an experience where you waited on God? How do you reconcile your desires for immediate answers with God’s timing, which may not align with your expectations?

7. NEXT STEPS

Don’t miss God’s answer because you are impatient.

- I will seek to remember who God is – his character and sovereignty in my life.
- I will practice open, honest communication with God.
- I will seek to practice waiting on the Lord.

Don’t forget to:

- Go through the devotionals every day this week.
- Have a regular daily time of prayer and reading of God’s Word.

CLOSING THE SESSION

Close the session by taking the time to pray for one another. Consider the following as you pray:

- Pray to grow in your honesty and openness to God.
- Pray for a heart that desires and seeks to wait on God.
- Pray for relationships to grow with other Christ-followers, that you will encourage and care for one another.
- Pray for your unsaved family, friends, and loved ones.
- Pray for protection, provision, healing and comfort for everyone who’s going through physical, emotional, mental and spiritual pain.

BIBLE READING GUIDE

August 28	Habakkuk 1:12-17
August 29	Habakkuk 2:1-3
August 30	1 Samuel 3
August 31	Psalms 118:1-14
September 1	Psalms 70
September 2	Matthew 25:1-13
September 3	Psalms 47