

# SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

For the week of September 3-9, 2023  
“WHEN TIMES ARE TROUBLING”  
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## 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.

What's a book, movie or show that you had high expectations for but ended up disappointing you? Why?

## GROUP DISCUSSION

### Read Habakkuk 2:2-20

1. What significance do you see in God's command for Habakkuk to "write the vision" plainly on tablets? How does verse 3 emphasize the importance of waiting for the fulfillment of the vision, even if it seems delayed?
2. Why is Habakkuk 2:4 considered a pivotal verse in the book of Habakkuk? As a group, discuss what it means for "the righteous will live by faith" in the context of this verse. In what way should this verse impact your daily life and decisions?
3. How does this passage depict God's judgment? What do you think these descriptions reveal about God's character and response to evil?
4. How does verses 6-8 portray wealth and the pursuit of it? Do you agree that the pursuit of wealth can lead to exploitation or oppression? What are your personal values when it comes to wealth and how are you actually applying it today as a Christian?
5. Despite the chaos and wickedness described, these verses affirm God's sovereignty and control over all creation. How does this truth provide hope and reassurance? How can a deeper awareness of God's sovereignty influence your perspective on the challenges and uncertainties of life?
6. Reflect on the futility of human efforts to establish security apart from God. How have you personally experienced the limitations of relying solely on human strength and wisdom? What areas in your life do you find it difficult to relinquish control and trust in God's sovereignty?

7. Habakkuk 2:20 contrasts the stillness before God with the busyness of human activity. What is the significance of this contrast? Has it been difficult for you to balance the demands of daily life with the need for quiet reflection and reverence before God? What steps can you personally take to incorporate this in your daily life?

## 8. NEXT STEPS

*Living by faith means stepping out for God and leaving the results to him.*

- I will live by faith in Jesus.
- I will learn to wait upon God's appointed time.
- I will trust in God's ultimate justice.
- I will be careful with wealth and power such that I will not abuse others.
- I will shun the idols in my life.
- I will be silent and trust in God's sovereignty.

*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 have a trusting heart in God's divine justice.
- Pray to grow in your trust in Jesus as you live by faith.
- 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

September 4	Habakkuk 2:4-5
September 5	Habakkuk 2:6-11
September 6	Habakkuk 2:12-17
September 7	Habakkuk 2:18-20
September 8	Psalms 115
September 9	Exodus 33:12-23
September 10	Psalms 100