

BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

In preparation for Sunday, November 14, 2004

Passage: Habakkuk 3:1-2

Memory Passage: Psalm 130:3-4

TODAY: *From your study this past week, what is one thing that impressed you that can be of help in your life?*

DAY 1 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) Read Habakkuk 3:1-3. What was the prophet's concern and attitude in 1:1-4? How has this changed by 2:1? What was his focus at the beginning of chapter 2? (b) How would you describe his attitude now in 3:1-3? What has changed in Israel? What has changed in terms of God's plans? Why has Habakkuk been changed? (c) How did Paul describe the power of God's Word in 1 Thessalonians 2:13? What does it do in those who believe? (d) Read Romans 12:1-2. How are believers changed and transformed? What role does the Word of God play in changing us? (e) What attitude did Habakkuk have (2:1)? How did Samuel have a similar attitude (1 Samuel 3:9)? Why is such an attitude so important for believers? (f) Examine your own daily devotions. Are you faithful to let the Word of God *change* you *daily*? Thank God for the gift of His Word and pray that your heart will be open to be changed by what you read each day.

DAY 2 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) Read Habakkuk 3:2. How does faith come according to Romans 10:17? What is essential for a person to be able to live a life of faith? (b) What result came from Habakkuk hearing God? How did it affect him? (c) Is the fear of the Lord only an O.T. concept? Consider 1 Peter 1:17; Revelation 14:7; 15:4; 19:5; and 2 Corinthians 5:11. What do we learn about the fear of the Lord from these passages? (d) What should be the result of godly fear according to Ephesians 6:5? What does Isaiah 66:2 tell us about the type of fear that God desires? (e) How do these ideas fit with 1 John 4:18? Should we fear God or not? What should be the basis of this fear? (f) Ask God to give our country a godly fear that will result in godly lives.

DAY 3 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) Read Habakkuk 3:2 again. What three things is Habakkuk asking God to do? (b) What does the word "revive" mean? Was Habakkuk only looking for the restoration of this nation's freedom or something more? (c) What had Israel experienced under King Josiah earlier in Habakkuk's lifetime (2 Kings 23:1-25)? (d) Was Habakkuk expecting a quick change? What promise had God given regarding His timing in Habakkuk 2:3? (e) What prayer does he pray in 3:2 (what phrase is repeated twice)? What is Habakkuk asking God to do *during* the time of waiting? (f) Pray for God to begin His work of revival in hearts today, beginning with your own.

DAY 4 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) Read Habakkuk 3:2 again. What does Habakkuk pray that God will remember when He judges? (b) Read Romans 11:30-36. What does Paul remind us that is true of us all? Why is mercy so necessary for all? (c) Do the wrath and mercy of God go together (consider Romans 11:22)? Where have we seen both in Habakkuk? (d) What does the kindness of God do (Romans 2:4)? What had it done for Habakkuk and Israel? (e) Why had God spoken to Habakkuk (2:2-3)? What does God want us to do with what we have heard? (f) Ask God to show you your heart and the areas that you are not living for Him. Ask for forgiveness according to 1 John 1:9.

DAY 5 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) Read Psalm 130:3-4. What does the psalmist remember about his sins and God's judgment? What does Psalm 103:10 remind us? (b) In Psalm 130:1-2, what does this recollection of God's mercy cause the psalmist to do? How is this similar to Habakkuk's experience? (c) In Psalm 130:5-6, what other things does the psalmist do that we have seen in Habakkuk? What is the basis of hope for Israel according to Psalm 130:7-8? (d) Read Luke 18:9-14. How would you contrast the prayer of the Pharisee with that of the publican? Which one was justified? Why? What attitude does the life of faith cause us to have (consider Habakkuk 2:4 again)? (e) Pray for someone today that needs to know about the mercy of God. Ask God to give you an opportunity to tell them about the mercy you've found in Jesus!

What have you learned about prayer and the life of faith?

DATE: November 14, 2004

PASSAGE: Habakkuk 3:1-2

Prayer and the Life of Faith
“O Lord, revive your work ...”