THE GOSPEL PROJECT FOR STUDENTS

UNIT 15 | SESSION 4

GOD ANSWERS A CONFUSED PROPHET

Habakkuk 1:2-6, 12-13; 2:3-4; 3:16-19

MAIN POINT:
Joy is rooted in relationship with God, not circumstances.

HIS STORY

- **Looking at the state of the world, where are you tempted to place God's response to sin and injustice on this scale?**

Helpless ○ ○ ○ *Indifferent* ○ ○ ○ *Grieved* ○ ○ ○ *Active* ○ ○

- **What are some examples in Scripture and in your life of God working in unexpected ways to accomplish His good purposes?**

- **In your own words, how would you describe what it looks like for someone to live by faith?**

- **Does living by faith mean living blindly? Why or why not?**

- **Do you tend to base your joy in your salvation in Christ or in your circumstances? What do we communicate about God and His worth when we find our joy in His salvation versus how our circumstances are turning out?**

Essential Doctrine

The Problem of Evil | Many atheists have argued that if God is all-powerful, all-loving, and knows everything, then evil would not exist in the world as humans know it today. But because evil exists in the world, God must not exist (or if He does exist, then He is not good or all-powerful). Despite its powerful rhetoric, appealing to evil as an argument against God fails: first, because outrage over bad things in this world presupposes a "good" moral standard that does not exist apart from God, and second, because God could have a good reason (though unknown to us) for allowing evil and suffering to continue for a season. Given what we know about God's character and purposes, Christians can rest assured that even in the midst of evil, God is working all things for our good (Rom. 8:28).

Christ Connection

Habakkuk lived at a time when evil seemed to be everywhere. By faith, he trusted God's promise that God would deliver His people. Injustice, violence, and wickedness surround us today, but we can live by faith and trust that Jesus will return one day to make all things right.

HEAD

- **What is the connection between faith and evidence? Are they mutually opposed? Why or why not?**
- **What are some reasons and evidences that support faith in Jesus?**

HEART

- **How can faith help ground our emotions during difficulties and change?**
- **What blessings can God bring out of hard times?**

HANDS

- **How do you think Habakkuk was able to rejoice despite his circumstances?**
- **In what ways does Habakkuk's life compare to your life today? How can you respond to your difficulties with joy and worship?**