GENERATIONS OF GRACE

YEAR 2 · LESSON 26

Habakkuk's Prophecies

Habakkuk 2:4

QUESTIONS

AGES 3–5

1. What did Habakkuk do when he was worried about the bad things happening in his country? *He talked to God about it and asked Him hard questions.*
2. What did God tell Habakkuk He was going to do about the wicked people in Judah? *Bring another nation (the Babylonians) to judge and punish them.*
3. What did God say a righteous person should do? *Live by faith—trust God.*
4. What did Habakkuk decide to do, even though he was scared about what was coming? *He decided to trust God and be joyful.*

AGES 6–8

1. What was Habakkuk's first question to God? *"O LORD, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not hear?"*
2. How did God answer Habakkuk's first complaint? *God said He was raising the Babylonians (the Chaldeans) to judge Judah for their sin.*
3. Why was Habakkuk confused by God's answer? *Because the Babylonians were even more wicked than Judah, he wondered how a holy God could use such a terrible nation to judge His people.*
4. What did God promise would eventually happen to Babylon because of their pride and wickedness? *God pronounced five "woes" against them, including that Babylon would be plundered, would not be safe in their own homes, and that their idols would prove completely worthless.*

AGES 9–11

1. What does it mean that Habakkuk's questions came "not from doubt but from confident faith"? *Habakkuk deeply trusted God's character, which is exactly why God's unexpected plan troubled him so much. He wasn't questioning whether God existed or cared, but wrestling to understand how this plan fit God's holy character.*
2. What key verse did God give Habakkuk in response to his second complaint, and how is it used in the New Testament? *"The righteous shall live by his faith" (Hab 2:4); it's quoted in Romans 1:17, Galatians 3:11, and Hebrews 10:38 as a foundational statement about justification by faith.*

3. What were the five "woes" the LORD pronounced against Babylon? *Babylon would be plundered, unsafe in their own homes, and shamed by their own drunkenness; God would fill the earth with the knowledge of His glory, and Babylon's idols would prove lifeless.*

4. How did Habakkuk's prayer in chapter 3 end? *Even though the revelation left him trembling, he expressed complete trust and "joy in the God of my salvation."*

INTRODUCE

AGES 3–5

TALKING TO GOD WHEN WE'RE SAD

Ask the children what they do when something confusing or scary happens. Ask if they ask a parent or trusted grown-up to explain or help them. Explain that Habakkuk was worried about bad things happening in his country, so he did something wonderful—he talked to God about it and asked Him hard questions.

EVEN THOUGH...

Play a simple call-and-response game: name something hard ("Even though it's raining..."), and have the children respond with something joyful ("...I will still smile!"). Explain that at the end of his book, Habakkuk said something like this to God—even though hard things were coming, he chose to trust God and rejoice.

AGES 6–8

WHY, GOD?

Ask the children if they've ever seen something happen that felt really unfair, and wondered why God allowed it. Explain that it's okay to bring honest questions to God, just like Habakkuk did when he asked God why He seemed silent about all the injustice in Judah.

A SURPRISING ANSWER

Ask a volunteer a question, then give them a completely unexpected answer (nothing dishonest, just surprising) and ask how that felt. Explain that when Habakkuk asked God to fix the injustice in Judah, God's answer completely surprised and even troubled him. God said He would use the wicked Babylonians to bring judgment.

AGES 9–11

FAITH VS. DOUBT

Ask the class: is there a difference between doubting God exists or cares, and honestly wrestling with something you don't understand about Him? Explain that Habakkuk's questions came not from a lack of faith, but from confident faith in God's character—which is exactly why God's plan troubled him so deeply. He trusted God enough to be honest about his confusion and seek out the answers.

THE RIGHTEOUS LIVE BY FAITH

Ask the class if they've heard the phrase "the just shall live by faith" before—maybe from Romans, Galatians, or Hebrews. Explain that this key New Testament teaching about salvation by faith actually comes from Habakkuk 2:4, written centuries earlier, when God gave Habakkuk this truth in answering his questions about injustice.

ILLUSTRATE

AGES 3–5

FROM WORRIED TO TRUSTING

On butcher paper, draw two simple pictures side by side: on one side, a figure of Habakkuk with a worried face and a speech bubble asking God a question; on the other side, the same figure with a smiling face under a bright sun. As you tell the lesson, point to each picture and explain that Habakkuk started out worried and confused, but ended up trusting and rejoicing in God, even before anything had changed. This week, when something feels scary or confusing, practice bringing it to God in prayer, just like Habakkuk did.

AGES 6–8

WAITING AT THE WATCHTOWER

Set up a chair or step stool as a "watchtower." Have a volunteer stand on it and explain that Habakkuk said, "I will take my stand at my watchpost... and look out to see what he will say to me" (Hab 2:1). Have the volunteer wait quietly while another child (as "the LORD's messenger") delivers a short note with God's answer. Discuss how Habakkuk didn't storm off after his hard question, but patiently waited for God's response. Remind the children that it's okay to ask God hard questions—but encourage them to also trust His answer, even when it's surprising or hard to understand, just like Habakkuk did.

AGES 9–11

"YET I WILL REJOICE"

On the board, write out a shortened version of Habakkuk 3:17–18: "Though the fig tree does not blossom... yet I will rejoice in the LORD." Underneath, have students brainstorm their own "though... yet I will..." statements about real hardships (though a test is hard, yet I will trust God; though a friendship is hurting, yet I will trust God). Discuss how this pattern reflects genuine faith of trusting God's character even when circumstances haven't changed. Challenge the students to identify one "even though" circumstance in their own life this week and to practice declaring trust and joy in God despite it, following the pattern of Habakkuk's closing prayer.