

WSU Christian Challenge Study Guide  
Habakkuk 3:16-19  
11/30/2023

In the face of evil and suffering, Habakkuk finds the way forward by *looking up* to God's character and *looking back* to God's activity (Habakkuk 3:1-15).

- What aspects of God's character do you find comforting in the face of evil and suffering?
- How can looking back to God's activity in the past comfort us in the face of evil and suffering?

*Read Habakkuk 3:16-19.*

Having looked back to God's character and up to God's activity, Habakkuk identifies the way forward as two simple actions: *wait and worship*.

### ***Wait (v. 16)***

- In what way(s) do you feel like you are currently waiting on God?

As a society, we hate waiting, but we, as Christians, can't. Part of what it means to be a Christian is to, like Habakkuk, wait patiently and wait with hope.

*Read Romans 8:18-25.*

- How does this passage in Romans help us think about waiting, in general, and even waiting in the face of suffering?

Waiting is not passive; it is active. It is not lazy; it's eager.

*Read Titus 2:11-14*

- According to this passage, what are some of the things we should be doing while we wait on God to completely fulfill His plan of salvation?

### ***Worship (v. 17-19)***

Though he has received devastating news and though he will not likely see the day God delivers His people from the hands of the Babylonians, Habakkuk claims the salvation of God.

- Is it difficult for you to simultaneously hold the reality of personal suffering and death *and* the promise of God's salvation? Why or why not?

Habakkuk and God's people were going to move forward by singing their way through suffering. Worship helps us wait.

- Do you find it difficult to sing your way through suffering? Why or why not?

*Read Colossians 3:16.*

- What are some of the purposes of worship?
- Given some of the purposes of worship, why is it important to be a part of local church where you consistently worship with other people?
- How can worship help you walk through difficult times?
- What is one step you need to take toward God in waiting and worshipping this week?