

STUDY 15

Replant yourself (2)

'Why do you force me to look at evil, stare trouble in the face day after day? Anarchy and violence break out, quarrels and fights all over the place. Law and order fall to pieces. Justice is a joke. The wicked have the righteous hamstrung and stand justice on its head.'

(Habakkuk 1:3,4 Message)

'Look around [you, Habakkuk, replied the Lord] among the nations and see! And be astonished! Astounded! For I am putting into effect a work in your days [such] that you would not believe it if it were told you.' (Habakkuk 1:5 Amplified)

In Part 2 of her message on standing tall and remaining planted in the house Pastor Bobbie brought out another key to doing that in the face of challenges.

• Stay, face to the wind, inspired and listening

We do that by consciously re-imagining the power and effect of God's Spirit and words within us. We need to put ourselves in the path of the Holy Spirit and realize that we do not need to be clever but just trust in the brilliance of God

CONNECTION AND ACTION Use these questions to promote conversation and connection.

- **Q.** Read Habakkuk 1:3-5. When you have things happening in your world that distress, confuse or anger you what keeps you in the house of God?
- **Q.** Read Psalm 1:3. Share an experience of the Holy Spirit filling you when you have been in a meeting.
- **Q.** Discuss how you can make the most of the opportunities to hear from God. What can get in the way and distract you at times? How can you deal with those things?
- **Q.** Read Ezekiel 37:1-10. Who is in your life that the Spirit is prompting you to speak life into? Discuss how you can be prepared when you see them.

Prayer: Pray for each other, that you will stay in the house of God, face to the wind, inspired and listening.

HIGHLIGHTS COMING UP

- Men's Conference is all about causing men to take a stand for righteousness
 & truth. Please speak with the men in your world and go to <u>www.mensconference.com</u> to register them today!
- Hillsong 30th Birthday: Sunday 3rd November join us for our 30th B'day Celebration. Visit www.myhillsong.com for your campus service times.





Reflection

The context of these verses in Habakkuk is a period towards the end of the 6th century BC when there was wickedness not only among the nations that were threatening Judah but also among the people of Judah themselves. Habakkuk was wrestling with God over the problems of evil seeming to go unpunished and his prayers seeming to go unanswered.

Read Habakkuk 3:17-19. Habakkuk, in the face of continuing trouble, makes a wonderful declaration of faith that is not dependent on his situation having changed. He chose to live in trust and rejoice in God anyway.

Write your own version of these verses that express your trust in God in your particular situation.

E.g. 'Though the money for the bills has not yet come in and my boss has cut my hours...'

PASTORAL CARE

- We have a pastoral care team at church to walk alongside people in your group who may be going through a tough time
- Please contact the church office Sydney 02 8853 5353, Melbourne 03 9720 2099, Brisbane 07 3422 8500 or Newcastle
 02 4927 1888 to let us know of anybody in your group (with their permission) who have sickness, death of a loved one, marriage challenges, surgeries.

NATION BUILDERS - ON MISSION

One of the best ways you can be 'On Mission' is to regularly PRAY for the Nation Builders causes we support, and regularly inspire your group to receive your Nation Builders offering. Your giving makes a massive difference in helping us 'reach and influencing the world'. We have also uploaded three new video resources to play in your Connect Group – check them out on Myhillsong

Mark & Joyce Wilkinson, Berlin, Germany

Mark and Joyce are graduates of Hillsong College and pioneered a Church in Berlin. Berlin is a city of 3.5 million people. In a typical week, only 5000 people attend evangelical churches – 99.8% of the city do not attend church and there is not one church over 500 people. At the beginning of 2013 Berlin CLC moved to a new venue, a night club in central Berlin. They started with 1 service and are about to begin their 3rd service. Last weekend there were over 400 people in their church! Please pray for Mark and Joyce, for people to continue to come to Christ and for a new venue for 2014.