



## Hope in the Dark Wandering

**Look Back** – Care, Praise, Loving Accountability, Vision – 20 mins This is a time to see how everyone’s week was. Were they successful in the previous week’s goals? Were they unsuccessful? It’s also a time to pour vision into your group. Give them the why behind things we are doing church wide. **Make sure to have your update outline with you so you can reference different points from the sermon.**

- How was the past week for everyone? What were your highs/lows?

**Look Up** – What does the Bible say? Practice – 20 mins

- The book of Habakkuk is different in that instead of Habakkuk speaking to the people on God’s behalf he is speaking to God on the peoples’ behalf. Why (knowing what happens in chapter 1) is this difference significant to you?
- We know that the name Habakkuk means to “embrace or wrestle”. Why is that appropriate when talking about this topic?
- Read Habakkuk 1:2-4. Habakkuk seems to have a few problems with God: **You don’t seem to really care, You aren’t doing much when you could, what you are doing, doesn’t seem fair.** Have you asked these questions (or similar ones) before? What were you taught (if at all) about questioning God like this before this week?
- Read Habakkuk 1:5-7,9. God’s response doesn’t seem to help answer any of Habakkuk’s questions or concerns. Read Mark 9:21-24. Pastor Brad said “**A planted believer can both WRESTLE with honest questions and EMBRACE a genuine faith in God.” How do the two separate passages speak to this quote? How does this change your perspective of unfairness in life?**
- Read Habakkuk 1:12. Pastor Brad said “**Don’t deny your doubts. Let your doubts drive you to God.**”
- “**What if honestly acknowledging your doubts, as Habakkuk did, is your first step towards building a deeper faith? What if embracing your secret questions opens the door for a maturing knowledge of God’s character? What if drawing closer to God, developing genuine intimacy with him, requires you to bear something that feels unbearable? To hear him through an ominous utterance, to trust him in the moment of doom, to embrace his strength when you’re weak with a burden? What if it takes real pain to experience deep and abiding hope?” -Craig Groeschel, Hope in the Dark**
- **Be ready to share first:** What are your thoughts about Pastor Brad and Pastor Craig Groeschel’s quotes?

**Look Forward** – Set Goals (For Accountability), Commission and Pray – 20 mins

Commit to a step and live it out this week.

- This week's steps will look different for everyone. Encourage your group to be open and honest about their struggles. Ask if anyone is willing to share with the group a struggle they are facing now. **(Be sensitive to your groups needs tonight. This topic could produce very raw emotions for some.)**