



FAITH AT HOME

Aldersgate Church ~ St. Louis Park, MN

Week of November 27, 2022: Habakkuk 1:1-7; 2:1-4; 3:3b-6, 17-19

Memory Verse

Habakkuk 3:19: *"God, the Lord, is my strength, God makes my feet like the feet of a deer, and makes me tread upon the heights."*

Advent at Home I:



Advent is here. Jesus is soon to arrive. Though our days get darker, the light we shine in Advent shines brighter.

[light/turn on candle]

Today we light the candle of hope. Hope for more peace, more joy, and more love in the world, in our communities, and in our homes.

Let us Pray: Come, Lord Jesus, come. As we wait for you, we wait with hope for a better and brighter world. Amen.

The Story

Theme of the story: To show how God wants us to trust God. God will keep promises.

Habakkuk is an unusual name that means "embrace." Instead of writing in the usual style of 'prophet speaking to the people,' the book of Habakkuk is written with God and Habakkuk speaking to each other. Habakkuk would ask a question or wonder out loud at something and God would answer. He felt comfortable speaking to God and asking questions. Habakkuk did not understand why wickedness consumed God's people. He said that it did not seem like God was doing anything about the people's wickedness. God responded and said that something was happening: He was going to raise up the Babylonians to punish Judah.

In this book, the Babylonians were described as a cruel nation who would march through the whole land of Judah and take houses that were not theirs and, not only houses, but they would also take so many captives that they were numbered like the sand. Can we count the grains of sand? No. That was another way of saying there would be a huge amount of people being led away into captivity. God said the Babylonians had fast horses, faster than leopards, which would run to the violence. The Babylonians thought nothing of politeness or manners. They had no respect for authority and did what they wanted to do, but God used this cruel nation of Babylon to discipline the nation of Judah.

God told Habakkuk to be patient and wait on God to deal with God's people in a just manner. God said

Activities:

Build a Watchtower (any age)

You will need: building blocks, Legos, etc.

Discuss how Habakkuk climbed the watch tower to find God's answer. Do we need to climb something to talk to God?

Activities:

Telescope (age 4-8)

You will need: 3 pieces of interlocking cardboard tubes, clear film wrap (Saran wrap), marker

Make a telescope with the cardboard tubes. On one end tape a piece of clear film, draw a cross on the film. On the side of the telescope write "Focus on God".

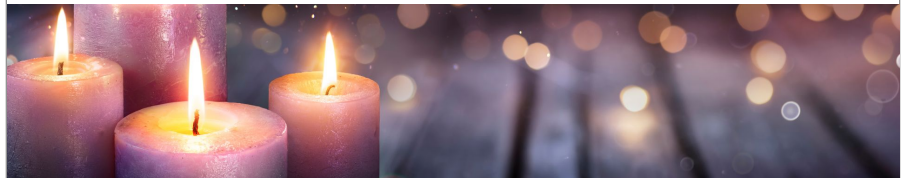
Prayer: Dear God, teach us to learn to talk to you. Give us strength to do what is right. Give us patience when we want something now. Amen.



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there would be many "woes" brought on Judah for serving false gods and not serving the true God. Habakkuk trembled and was afraid of the things that God said would happen to His people because of their wickedness and disobedience, but Habakkuk also believed and trusted in God. He said that the Lord was his strength.

Family Discussion: For all ages - What does your family do to prepare for Christmas? Discuss your traditions and when they started, where they came from. For older children - Is God a God of love? Does God still punish people for bad behavior? Does God take care of evil?



It's Advent at Home:

Advent is a season of waiting and longing for love and peace and light to come to a dark world. It begins on the 4th Sunday before Christmas, and each Sunday we light a new candle as a way of holding vigil for Christ to come and dwell with us and bring peace and hope and life to the world. The word "advent" comes from the Latin word meaning "arrival".

Every year we encourage families to make an Advent Wreath at home. This can be as simple as merely having five candles to light: One for each Sunday and one for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Or you can have some fun with it and really zhuzh it up!

Each week in the Faith at Home resource we will have an Advent at Home reading for you. We encourage you to do this each Sunday, ideally it's a great way to open up Sunday dinner! See this week's Advent at Home reading in the upper sidebar.