

EVEN IF THE FIG TREE DOES NOT BLOSSOM

May 17th, 2026

Habakkuk Overview // Habakkuk 3:16-19

Message Context

Habakkuk 3:16–19 shows us what it means for “the righteous one” to live by faith when life is shaken by distress, confusion, and loss. Habakkuk is overwhelmed by Judah’s wickedness and even more confused when God says He will use Babylon to bring judgment, yet by the end of the book his hope rests not in changed circumstances but in the Lord Himself. Even if the fig tree does not blossom and every earthly security disappears, Habakkuk chooses to rejoice in the God of his salvation, trusting that the Lord will keep His promises, judge evil, save His people, and strengthen those who live by faith.

CONNECT – Announcements (page 2) & Building Relationships

1. What is one piece of news — personal, national, or global — that you still remember because it shook you or changed the way you saw the world?
2. Habakkuk describes a world where the fig tree does not blossom, the vines produce no fruit, and the stalls are empty. What would be a modern version of that kind of loss or instability?

REFLECT - Out of the Word and Into Our Lives

3. Have someone from the group read **Habakkuk 3:16–19** out loud. What stood out to you most from a fresh reading of the passage? And is there anything from the message that you want to be sure we talk about in our group time this week?
4. Habakkuk says his “inner parts trembled,” his “lips quivered,” and “decay entered” his bones. What kinds of circumstances make people feel that kind of fear, weakness, or distress today?
5. Read **Habakkuk 1:2–7**. Habakkuk first cries out because of the violence and injustice in Judah, but God’s answer brings even more confusion: He is raising up the Chaldeans. Why is it sometimes hard to trust the Lord’s plan when His answer does not make immediate sense to us?
6. Pastor Avery said we often act like “the problem is bigger than God,” but there is no problem greater than God. What is one situation in your life where you need to see your circumstances through the eyes of faith rather than only through the eyes of flesh?
7. Read **Habakkuk 2:1–4**. Habakkuk waits to hear from the Lord, and God tells him that the vision is appointed, certain, and worth waiting for. What does it practically look like to “live by faith” while waiting for God’s answer?
8. Pastor Avery said that our salvation does not rest on outward circumstances, but on Christ. Why is it important to remember that we are saved in Christ even when life feels like a train wreck?
9. Pastor Avery told the story of Horatio Spafford, who wrote *It Is Well with My Soul* after devastating loss. What makes it possible for a Christian to say, “It is well,” even when circumstances are not well?

10. The sermon repeatedly returned to the phrase “even if”: even if the fig tree does not blossom, even if sickness comes, even if friends abandon us, even if the world gives us heartache. What is one “even if” circumstance where God may be calling you to deeper trust?
11. Habakkuk says, “The Lord GOD is my strength, and He has made my feet like deer’s feet.” The sermon emphasized that our confidence does not come from the quality or amount of our faith, but from the One our faith is in. How does that encourage you when your faith feels weak?
12. Read **Habakkuk 2:14, 2:20, and 3:13**. These verses remind us that the earth will be filled with the knowledge of God’s glory, that the Lord is in His holy temple, and that He goes forth for the salvation of His people. Which of these truths strengthens your faith the most right now, and why?
13. The message pointed us to Jesus as the ultimate fulfillment of God’s saving promise — the One who died, rose again, crushed the head of the serpent, and will come again in victory. How does the finished work of Christ give us confidence when our circumstances remain painful or unresolved?
14. Habakkuk ends by saying, “The Lord GOD is my strength, and He has made my feet like deer’s feet, and has me walk on my high places.” What would it look like for you this week to walk with that kind of steady, faith-filled confidence?

🕒 **PROTECT – Care for one another (divided, gender-specific groups)**

15. Is there an area of fear, grief, confusion, sin, shame, or disappointment where you have been staring at the problem more than looking for the Lord? How can this group help you turn toward Him?
16. Complete this sentence and share as honestly as you are comfortable:
“Even if _____, yet I will rejoice in the Lord because _____.”
17. Who in our group or broader church family may currently be walking through a “fig tree does not blossom” season? How can we intentionally encourage, pray for, or serve them this week?

Announcements

Church Picnic: Sunday, May 31st After 2nd Service at Farris Memorial Park – Sign-up bring something at this link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C054EA8A92AA7F4CF8-63848923-church?useFullSite=true#/>

Has the Lord gifted you musically? Either in singing or with instruments? We are always looking to grow our Worship Team.

Emerald Grove Summer Bible Camp: July 12th – 16th – For Ages 2 and up!

Resources for Going Deeper

- **Bible Project: Book of Habakkuk Summary:** <https://youtu.be/OPMaRqGJPUU>
- **Romans 1:16–17; Galatians 3:11–13; Hebrews 10:35–39**
 These passages show how the New Testament uses Habakkuk 2:4 — “the righteous one shall live by faith” — to point us to justification, endurance, and confidence in Christ.
- **“It Is Well with My Soul” — Horatio Spafford**
 Spend time reading or singing the hymn this week, especially in light of Habakkuk’s declaration: “Yet I will triumph in the LORD; I will rejoice in the God of my salvation.”