

Home Group Notes Sunday 20th September

Lord...do it again

This week we explore what might be considered the first explicit prayer for revival, found in Habakkuk 3:1-19. Habakkuk asks God to repeat (revive) his awesome deeds “in our day, make them known in our time”. The actions, thoughts, words, and feelings we repeat say a lot about who we are as people, and what our relationship with God is like. In the midst of difficult times, when we too seem to repeatedly be surrounded by dark and negative forces, we can turn to God and pray for God to repeat (revive) his awesome deeds.

There are a lot of questions this week. Please do not feel the pressure to answer all of them in one sitting. Perhaps read through them and focus on those which seem the most pressing for your particular situation. Maybe break them up and focus on a few every day. Maybe not every question will be applicable to you, that is okay too. Let's allow God to lead us as he desires.

Read Habakkuk 3:1-19

Beginning with ourselves

1. Is there a time in your life when you experienced God in a way that caused you to “stand in awe” of him? If so, what did you experience?
2. Is there any particular testimony from a friend or family member that caused you to stand in awe of God?
3. Reflecting on what you repeat, and avoid repeating, what story does this tell about who you are?
4. What story does this tell about your relationship with Jesus?
5. Reflecting on what St. Thomas Methodist Church repeats and doesn't repeat in our church life, what story does this tell about who we are as a Church?
6. What story does that tell about our relationship with Jesus?

Looking at the Israelites

7. Read Habakkuk 1:2. What were the Israelites constantly repeating that caused Habakkuk to write what he wrote?
8. What story does this tell about who the Israelites were at this time in their history and what their relationship with God was like?
9. Because of their repeated actions, thoughts, beliefs, etc. what does God decide to do with them (Habakkuk 1:6)? How would you deal with the Israelites if you were in God's shoes?

Revival: asking God to repeat God's awesome deeds...

We can think about revival as asking God to repeat, or revive, the awesome deeds that are reflected in both the Old and New Testament (and perhaps in the world since then. We can think here of our Methodist heritage and how it was a moment of revival).

10. What do you want God to repeat (revive) in your life (personal life, family, marriage, work etc.)?
11. What do you want your relationship with Christ to be full of?
12. What do we, as a congregation, want God to repeat/revive in our church?
13. What deeds do we want our church to be full of?

Spend some time in prayer focussing on the awesome things God has done in this world already. Allow the Holy Spirit to guide our hearts and thoughts into a place where we "stand in awe" of God's deeds. Then let's present to God our requests of what we desire God to repeat in our world today, and prayer together:

LORD, we have heard of your fame; we stand in awe of your deeds, LORD. Repeat them in our day, in our time make them known. In and through us.