

# Hope in the Dark

David Quaid

## I. Introduction

## II. How Do I Believe God Is Good, Even When Life Is Not?

### A. Wonder

#### 1. 'Where are you, God?'

a. Habakkuk 1:2-4 (NIV) <sup>2</sup> *How long, O Lord, must I call for help, but you do not listen? Or cry out to you, "Violence!" but you do not save? <sup>3</sup> Why do you make me look at injustice? Why do you tolerate wrongdoing? Destruction and violence are before me; there is strife, and conflict abounds. <sup>4</sup> Therefore the law is paralyzed, and justice never prevails. The wicked hem in the righteous, so that justice is perverted.*

#### 2. Acknowledge doubts

a. It's okay not to be okay, but it's not okay to pretend you're okay, when you're not.

b. James 1:2-4 (NIV) <sup>2</sup> *Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, <sup>3</sup> because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. <sup>4</sup> Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.*

#### 3. God may respond in a way we don't like.

a. Habakkuk 1:5-6 (NIV) <sup>5</sup> *"Look at the nations and watch— and be utterly amazed. For I am going to do something in your days that you would not believe, even if you were told. <sup>6</sup> I am raising up the Babylonians, that ruthless and impetuous people, who sweep across the whole earth to seize dwellings not their own."*

### B. Wait

#### 1. Position to listen

a. Habakkuk 2:1 (NIV) *I will stand at my watch and station myself on the ramparts; I will look to see what he will say to me, and what answer I am to give to this complaint.*

#### 2. Live by faith

a. Habakkuk 2:3 (NIV) *"For the revelation awaits an appointed time; it speaks of the end and will not prove false. Though it linger, wait for it; it will certainly come and will not delay."*

b. Habakkuk 2:4 (NIV) *"See, the enemy is puffed up; his desires are not upright— but the righteous person will live by his faithfulness."*

c. Life is found when we are faithful.

d. Habakkuk 2:20 (NIV) *"The Lord is in his holy temple; let all the earth be silent before him."*

### C. Worship

#### 1. Praise

- a. Habakkuk 3:1-2 (NIV) <sup>1</sup> *A prayer of Habakkuk the prophet. On shigionoth.* <sup>2</sup> *Lord, I have heard of your fame; I stand in awe of your deeds, Lord. Repeat them in our day, in our time make them known; in wrath remember mercy.*
  - i. "Shigionoth": Strong emotion, passionate singing, vigorous praise
  - ii. Praise before the provision
2. Remember God's faithfulness
  - a. Habakkuk 3:3-15 (NIV)
3. Declare your trust
  - a. Habakkuk 3:16-18 (NIV)
  - b. Do we worship God only when He does "good" or, do we worship Him because He is good?

### III. Conclusion

- A. Psalm 13 (NIV)