**Small Groups Material - Habakkuk 3**

**Waiting**

**Welcome** Are you good at waiting? Can you think of a time when you found it really hard to wait for something to happen?

**Worship** *You may want to light a candle.*

One person reads Psalm 130 while the group listens. People might want to use their body in some way to express waiting: e.g. hands open on laps, kneeling, standing with arms stretched. Read it slowly so the words have time to be absorbed.

Then, either watch the video or listen together to Mumford & Sons’ song ‘I will wait’ and reflect on the lyrics (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pe8Sncj52UQ>)

or ‘Waiting here for you’ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G5VIx2AVOr0>

Allow a time of silent waiting, focussing on God.

**Word**

**Read Habakkuk 2:1**

*In chapter 1, Habakkuk has raised deep complaints to God about what he sees going on around him.* What does v1 tell us that he does next?

In our prayers, we are often good at talking, but how easy do you find it then to wait and see/listen for what God wants to say back? What is it we find difficult?

**Read Habakkuk 2:2-3, 14**

Does God promise to act immediately?

What assurances does God give?

What instruction does he give?

‘God may seem to be *late* but is invariably *on time*.’ Did Habakkuk believe that? How easy do you find that to believe?

When has God’s word provided a perspective and comfort for you that has not been available elsewhere?

Share any experience that you might have of ‘writing down the revelation’ - recording what you sense that God is saying to you.

**Read James 5:7-11**

*Throughout the New Testament, we find the revelation (or vision) of what God has done, and will do, to set right the kind of things that Habakkuk complains about.*

God has not abandoned us and will ensure perfect justice. What does James refer to that gives us that assurance?

In a world that is obsessed with instant response and instant gratification, and in which people have a sense of entitlement to having what they want immediately, how does Habakkuk’s example help us?

**Witness**

Is there anyone in the group (or someone’s friend) who is in a particularly difficult situation (eg at work) waiting ‘in faith’? Pray for them as they wait.