



**When God DOESN'T Make Sense**  
*Why Ask Why?* (Habakkuk 1:1-11)  
By Pastor David Hillis, 07 September 2014

**BIG IDEA:** In tragic, confusing times, the question to ask God isn't "why?", but rather "where?" - "where, God, can I find you in this?"

- Some 2,600 years ago, there was a prophet names Habakkuk. While other prophets were confronting people for their behavior, Habakkuk was confronting God!
- Habakkuk lived during the final, turbulent years of the nation of Judah. It was a nation that was formed when they seceded from Israel 300 years before because of an evil, corrupt government, and now Judah finds themselves in the same position.
- The nation Habakkuk is describing is just short of anarchy. The prophet Jeremiah backs up Habakkuk's story. He says this king killed anyone, even the innocent (Jeremiah 22:13-19, 26:20-23).
- Even the priests in charge of shepherding God's people are corrupt, abusing their authority (Jeremiah 23:1-2, 9-11).

**The "why" question is the wrong question to ask...**

1. ...because we jump to the wrong conclusions.
2. ...because God doesn't work off of our playbook.
3. ...because we simply cannot see the full picture now.

God's ways are too much to understand on this side of Heaven. We just don't have the capacity to understand them fully. We have finite brains, God does not. We are bound in this life by time and can't see the bigger picture. God can, and does.

God gently reminds us of this limitation over and over again in Scripture:

- "Who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?" — *1 Corinthians 2:16*
- "As you do not know the path of the wind, or how the body is formed in a mother's womb, so you cannot understand the work of God, the Maker of all things." — *Ecclesiastes 11:5*
- "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the Lord. "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts." — *Isaiah 55:8-9*
- "Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out!" — *Romans 11:33*

So God encourages us, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight." — *Proverbs 3:5*

1 Corinthians 13:12 (NLT) really sums it up: "Now we see things imperfectly, like puzzling reflections in a mirror, but then we will see everything with perfect clarity. All that I know now is partial and incomplete, but then I will know everything completely, just as God now knows me completely."

**Where is God in the biggest struggles and challenges you face today?**