



NCFI Caring Across Regions with Encouraging Scripture

## HABAKKUK'S PRAYER

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I want to share with you two beautiful prayers, that of the Prophet Habakkuk (Habakkuk 3) added to the prayer of Jabez which calls us to trust God and allow Him to lead us (read 1 Chronicles 4:10).

Let us remember that Habakkuk, a minor prophet of the 12 prophets of the Old Testament, lived in a time of injustice and idolatry and the threats of ungodly Babylon. (600 BC). Habakkuk does not accuse Israel of its corruption, nor does he bring God's message to the Israelites but rather he addresses God with his struggles. He wants to know why God has allowed terrible things to happen to His chosen people.

Habakkuk reflected on the struggle of a true believer to keep his faith firm in times of crisis and hopelessness. He is an example that it is indeed permissible to question what God is doing especially when we are suffering and or our enemies are prospering. Habakkuk presented these complaints before God. God responds to Habakkuk telling him that he has raised the Babylonians to heap justice on the corruption of the leaders of Israel. Habakkuk is dismayed that God would use an even more evil and corrupt nation like Babylon to bring justice to the Israelites. He has difficulty understanding this.

In the writings of Habakkuk, God is sometimes perceived to be distant and indifferent. Yet, Habakkuk persists in his pleading to understand why God, who he believes is a good and just God, has allowed these evil things to happen to his chosen people. But ... God in His immense mercy is always working. He is closer than we think, maintaining control of everything that happens in this world and in our lives. Countries will rise and fall as they succumb to corruption, but God is ever present. Nothing happens without His presence.

Psalm 145:18 *“The LORD is near to all who call upon him, to all who call upon him in truth.”*

Habakkuk’s prayer is for the nation of Judah, but his words are pertinent to all of God’s people and in all times. His prayer begins by saying:

*“O LORD, I have heard the report of You, and Your work, and O LORD, do I fear.”*

Although upon hearing the Word, Habakkuk was afraid, he immediately asks, *“In the midst of the years renew it; in the midst of the years make it known;”* (Hab. 3:2, ESV)

Habakkuk wanted a renewal and revival of God’s work during those difficult time.

We could say the same today in 2025- REVIVE AND RENEW YOUR WORK IN THE MIDST OF OUR TIMES. Revive and renew your faith- nurses, midwives and students, that we may see them involved in the work of the NCFI, that professionals rise up in love with your Word, bending their knees, working for the growth for the Kingdom. Revive and renew the work of each region, in each continent, revive and renew each board member, revive and renew retired nurses so that they may be mentors to young nurses, revive and renew the work of donors for economic support, revive and renew new times in the midst of so much technology in the midst of Artificial Intelligence- SO THAT WE CAN MAKE IT KNOWN to the people, to the professionals who do not yet know you, to the countries where we do not yet have nursing fellowships of NCFI. We want to stand by the shining example of Habakkuk and desire to be examples of righteousness living by faith.

After a long dialogue with God, Habakkuk concludes with another beautiful song which confirms his faith in God and his constant mercy and love.

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*“Though the fig tree should not blossom, nor fruit on the vines, the produce of the olive fail, and the fields yield no food, the flocks be cut off from the fold and there be no her in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the LORD; I will take joy in the God of my salvation. God, the LORD, is my strength; he makes my feet like the feet like the deer; he makes me tread on my high places.”*  
(3:17-19, ESV)

In this new year, may we rejoice in the God of our Salvation. May the Lord be our strength and may our feet be ready to go where there are no groups of nurses. May God make roads and provide doors. May we have the blessing of God as He enlarges our kingdom. May His hand not depart from us as was the song of Jabez; and may He allow us to walk on the heights every day supported by His hand.

*Jabez called upon the God of Israel, saying, 'Oh that you would bless me and enlarge my border, and that your hand might be with me, and that you would keep me from harm so that it might not bring me pain!' And God granted what he asked" ([1 Chronicles 4:10](#)).*

At the end of Jabez's prayer it says: " *God granted him.*" In this prayer we learn that we can indeed call upon the Lord and ask for that which we need. In accordance with His will our prayers will be answered as we allow Him to lead us, to give up our fears and TRUST in our good and merciful God. God in his infinite love and wisdom is working and actng, as in the time of Jabez.

May God bless us.

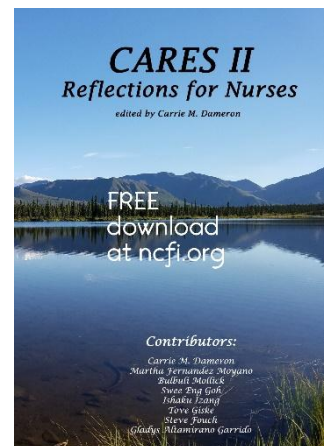
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