

# The Exchanger

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THE NEWSLETTER  
OF  
FELLOWSHIP  
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WHITE ROCK

The Mission of  
FBCWR:

*We help people  
connect to God*

**Get Connected!**

*Let the heart of  
those who seek the  
Lord be glad. Seek  
the Lord and His  
strength; Seek His  
face continually.*

*I Chronicles 16:10-11*

## INSIDE

Still Thankful	1
What's News at F.B.C.W.R.	2
Calendar	3
Ministry Spotlight	4

## Still Thankful

Quiz time. Name a major theme of the book of Habakkuk. I know, its such a short, out-of-the-way book, but is it ever relevant today. Habakkuk verbalized what so many Americans currently wonder. Why does God allow evildoers to go on? Why doesn't He obliterate them yesterday. "If I were God..."

God listens to Habakkuk's questions for a while and then tells him to write a Dear Habby letter (sorry) to all evildoers. "Record the vision and inscribe it on tablets" (Hab. 2:2). God too had been pushed to the end of His rope by evildoers. He reminds Habakkuk of His history against abusers. The Lord then basically dictates a war pamphlet to be dropped on those who were terrorizing His creation. "For the violence done to Lebanon will overwhelm you" (2:17). He would not stand by passively as the Chaldeans, known for impaling the infants of their enemies on spears, spread their wicked kingdom.

### Judgment Delayed

But Habakkuk would have to wait. Judgment is always delayed. God was giving time for repentance. In the meantime, for Habakkuk and Israel there were hardships, there were losses, there were economic woes. But Habakkuk's attitude in the midst of the calamity was nothing short of amazing. As we near what will arguably be the most somber of American Thanksgivings we can glean much

from his approach. In 3:17-18 he concludes his thoughts:

*Though the fig tree should not blossom and there be no fruit on the vines, though the yield of the olive should fail And the fields produce no food, though the flock should be cut off from the fold And there be no cattle in the stalls,*

*Yet I will exult in the LORD, I will rejoice in the God of my salvation.*

Habakkuk discovered that the best thing about God is not His gifts but His person. Just Him. He is absolute power and unending love bundled into one All-everything being.

The book ends with an inspiring metaphor. Because of God's goodness and because of His power, Habakkuk feels like a sure-footed mountain deer walking high above the earth across steep mountain passes. He has risen above his circumstances—he is truly free.

*19 The Lord GOD is my strength, And He has made my feet like hinds' feet, And makes me walk on my high places.*



Irrepressibly thankful!

-Joe Fornear