

How Big is Your God?

Do you ever feel like you know and understand God? What happens then when you encounter a Bible passage that seems to contradict your picture? The preacher Fred Craddock once preached a sermon in which he lamented how small God seems to be in so many sermons. In too many sermons, Craddock said, preachers give the impression that they had walked all the way around God and took pictures. But this kind of God is not big enough to fit the God of the Bible, Craddock claimed. Our faith needs to have more size to it. Habakkuk would agree. In the song Habakkuk sings in the first part of his third chapter, the prophet confronts us with one powerfully big God.

AWARENESS Before listening reflect on what you already know or understand about topics we'll cover in the episode.

- When was the last time you were in awe of the Lord? What were the circumstances? What did you think about? Describe your response to that experience of awe.
- How do you describe God? Which words do you choose and why?



LISTEN TO THE EPISODE: [How Big is Your God?](#)

READ [Habakkuk 3:1-16](#)

REFLECTION After listening, consider the following questions:

- What is your attitude when you hear a Bible story for the umpteenth time? How is it different than when you recall how God has worked in your life? How often do you spend time tracing God's work through history and what does that exercise demonstrate about his character?
- After listening to segment 1, describe in your own words what it means to fear the Lord. Have you ever experienced fear of the Lord? Recall that experience and consider its impact on your faith.
- Think about the relationship between mercy and wrath. Is it possible to have one without the other? What does it mean to you that God gets indignant, but Jesus absorbs it on our behalf? Have you ever considered that we do not see God's wrath as evidently as it appeared in the Old Testament; how does that affect your understanding or appreciation of his mercy?
- Reflect on your personal and corporate worship. In what ways has your view of God or your understanding of God's character impacted how you approach and participate in worship?

RELATED PASSAGES for further study

[Psalm 29](#), [Romans 5:6-11](#), [Luke 1:46-55](#)

CONCLUSION

Write out [Habakkuk 3:1](#):

*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.*

Place it in your Bible or hang it in your home. Make a habit of practicing it, on your own and with your community (your family, friends, or gathering of believers). Each time you read it, recount one example of God's fame and acts - both incredible and incredulous - from the Bible and from your own life that leave you in awe of him.

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