

4. Look at the following passages: Prov 28:26; Ps 49:6; Hosea 10:13; Ps 41:9. What do these verses indicate that people put their trust in?

Where might you look in a crisis to find refuge other than God?

5. What changes if we truly find our refuge in God?

6. What doesn't change?

7. Go back to Nahum 1:7-8; what difference does it make?

Post study homework. Analyze your week each day. Jot down a few indications that you are finding your security, your identity, your values in God. Jot down a few things that may be replacing God as your primary source. Don't be discouraged! Even Jeremiah struggled (Jeremiah 15:17-18)

Staring into the Face of Evil

We often wish Nahum were not in the canon, and the book has been almost totally ignored in the modern church. Its message of judgment does not fit the picture we want to have of a loving, forgiving God. Nahum centers attention entirely on the impending fall of Nineveh resulting in the delivery of the people of Judah. Nahum's message has become the prototype of the destruction of all evil—from that of Nineveh to Nazi Germany. Nahum's message is essential and timeless: the Lord reigns and will have the final word against evil. This means hope and deliverance by God for God's people.

NAHUM ASSURES US THAT

God takes sin seriously

God is often slow to act

God will not permit that evil ultimately wins out

People often think God's patience means he doesn't care

OR that he can't do anything about it.

When things get really bad and nothing seems to be happening, we tend to ask "Where is God?"

Nahum says how hard things are going to get, he says "God is good!"

He says this because

1. God does not leave sin unpunished
2. God does not leave righteousness unrecognized

When you trust God, you run to him in times of trouble.

When you trust God, you find your ultimate safety in times of threat.

When you trust God, you find your answers in righteous living not in personal comfort.

Small Group Homework For the week of September 27, 2015

My Story

1. We talked about trust this week, something that we need when we are fearful or in trouble. Can you remember a time when you were really afraid? ALTERNATE: What really scares you?

Digging in

2. Read Nahum 1:2-3. God clearly states that he takes vengeance seriously. Do the following verses relate trust to wrongs committed against us?
Dt 32:35; Ge 50:19; 1 Sa 26:9-10; Jer 51:36
3. Nahum 1:7-8 speaks of the goodness of God in the middle of a passage full of judgment. The key is trust or finding refuge in God. What does it mean to you to find refuge in God?