**WHEN BAD THINGS HAPPEN - ANGER**

FEAR LEADS TO ANGER / ANGER LEADS TO HATE / HATE LEADS TO SUFFERING – Yoda

Anger can lead to the opposite of what God wants us to do – LOVE and eventually ignoring LOVE leads to HELL

Explosion - we run, we fight, we hide

Anger - customer service/phone example

**Three Questions:**

* Name an emotion you might feel when something bad happens? *Anger, Confusion, Sadness, Fear, Worry/Anxiety, Denial, Depression*
* What is something a person might do when angry? *Swear, Hit Something, Throw something, Yell, Try not to show it, play a video game, escape into something else, drink, smoke, count to ten, threaten someone, plan revenge*
* Name a book of the old testament that has five chapters of less? *Ruth, Lamentations, Joel, Obadiah, Jonah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Malachi*

**ANGER/OUTBURST/CONFLICT**

* Moses, Abraham, David, Elijay, Jeremiah all expressed at times anger towards God – God uses their emotional outburst to teach them and God didn’t scold them for their honest expressions.

Is it ok to be angry at God?

* We have to open up and be honest with ourselves and with God – or we become bitter
* Faith means we have a relationship with God and can be real with him in our expressions so he can help sort them out
* Keep our eyes on the concept of AGAPE love - an unconditional love that sees beyond the outer surface and accepts the recipient for whom he/she is, regardless of their flaws, shortcomings or faults. It’s the type of love that everyone strives to have for their fellow human beings. Although you may not like someone, you decide to love them just as a human being. This kind of love is all about sacrifice as well as giving and expecting nothing in return. The translation of the word agape is love in the verb – form: it is the love demonstrated by your behavior towards another person. It is a committed and chosen love.

Did Jesus show emotions like sadness or anger?

* He wept at the tomb of Lazarus
* Anger at the moneychanger
* In the Garden of Gethsemane before being arrested he poured his heart out to God (mind blown) / Jesus asks God, “let this cup pass from me” – even Jesus questioned God

**BIBLICAL EXAMPLE OF QUESTIONING GOD**

Habakkuk

* Lived at same time and place as Jeremiah (around 612 BC)
* Minor prophet
* Nation of Judah was living a lie (pretending to worship God)
* Jeremiah was complaining about the nation and its people and then Habakkuk makes the same complaint
* 5 Oracles about the Chaldeans (Babylonians) – *oracle means a dangerous message/prophecy*

Read Habakkuk Chapter 1:2-4

**2**How long, O Lord, will I call for help,
And You will not hear?
I cry out to You, “Violence!”
Yet You do not save.
**3**Why do You make me see iniquity,
And cause *me* to look on wickedness?
Yes, destruction and violence are before me;
Strife exists and contention arises.
**4**Therefore the law is [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Habakkuk+1&version=NASB#fen-NASB-22736b)]ignored
And justice [[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Habakkuk+1&version=NASB#fen-NASB-22736c)]is never upheld.
For the wicked surround the righteous;
Therefore justice comes out perverted.

How would you describe Habakkuks Attitude? *Being bold, questioning God, demanding*

Habakkuk 1:5-7 / God responds

**5**“Look among the nations! Observe!
Be astonished! Wonder!
Because *I am* doing something in your days—
You would not believe if [[d](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Habakkuk+1&version=NASB#fen-NASB-22737d)]you were told.
**6**“For behold, I am raising up the Chaldeans,
That [[e](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Habakkuk+1&version=NASB#fen-NASB-22738e)]fierce and impetuous people
Who march [[f](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Habakkuk+1&version=NASB#fen-NASB-22738f)]throughout the earth
To [[g](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Habakkuk+1&version=NASB#fen-NASB-22738g)]seize dwelling places which are not theirs.
**7**“They are dreaded and feared;
Their justice and [[h](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Habakkuk+1&version=NASB#fen-NASB-22739h)]authority [[i](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Habakkuk+1&version=NASB" \l "fen-NASB-22739i" \o "See footnote i)]originate with themselves.

**I’m reminded of a Matthew West Song: Do Something**

I woke up this morning
Saw a world full of trouble now, thought
How’d we ever get so far down, and
How’s it ever gonna turn around
So I turned my eyes to Heaven
I thought, “God, why don’t You do something?”
Well, I just couldn’t bear the thought of
People living in poverty
Children sold into slavery
The thought disgusted me
So, I shook my fist at Heaven
Said, “God, why don’t You do something?”
He said, “I did, yeah, I created you” (now listen)

If not us, then who
If not me and you
Right now, it’s time for us to do something, yeah
If not now, then when
Will we see an end
To all this pain
Oh, it’s not enough to do nothing
It’s time for us to do something

Read Habakkuk Chapter 2 – God Answers!! *God answers Habakkuk’s questions, resulting in continuing faith in God’s wisdom, sovereignty, and salvation.*

Habakkuk 2:1-4 / 18-20

I will stand on my guard post
And station myself on the rampart;
And I will keep watch to see what He will speak to me,
And how I may reply [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Habakkuk+2&version=NASB#fen-NASB-22750a)]when I am reproved.
**2**Then the Lord answered me and said,
“Record the vision
And inscribe *it* on tablets,
That [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Habakkuk+2&version=NASB#fen-NASB-22751b)]the one who [[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Habakkuk+2&version=NASB#fen-NASB-22751c)]reads it may run.
**3**“For the vision is yet for the appointed time;
It [[d](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Habakkuk+2&version=NASB#fen-NASB-22752d)]hastens toward the goal and it will not [[e](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Habakkuk+2&version=NASB#fen-NASB-22752e)]fail.
Though it tarries, wait for it;
For it will certainly come, it will not delay.

**4**“Behold, as for the proud one,
His soul is not right within him;
But the righteous will live by his [[f](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Habakkuk+2&version=NASB#fen-NASB-22753f)]faith.

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**18**“What profit is the [[s](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Habakkuk+2&version=NASB#fen-NASB-22767s)]idol when its maker has carved it,
*Or* [[t](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Habakkuk+2&version=NASB#fen-NASB-22767t)]an image, a teacher of falsehood?
For *its* maker trusts in his *own* handiwork
When he fashions speechless idols.
**19**“Woe to him who says to a *piece of* wood, ‘Awake!’
To a mute stone, ‘Arise!’
*And* that is *your* teacher?
Behold, it is overlaid with gold and silver,
And there is no breath at all inside it.
**20**“But the Lord is in His holy temple.
[[u](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Habakkuk+2&version=NASB#fen-NASB-22769u)]Let all the earth be silent before Him.”

**THE SOLUTION / WHAT DOES THE “I AM” OF JESUS SAY ABOUT IT:**

MATTHEW 5:21-24 NASB

““You have heard that the ancients were told, ‘YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT MURDER ’ and ‘Whoever commits murder shall be liable to the court.’ But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother shall be guilty before the court; and whoever says to his brother, ‘ You good-for-nothing,’ shall be guilty before the supreme court; and whoever says, ‘You fool,’ shall be guilty enough to go into the fiery hell. Therefore if you are presenting your offering at the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your offering there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother, and then come and present your offering.”

**The Solution is in verse 24**

And it is born out of two types of love:

**AGAPE**

This is an unconditional love that sees beyond the outer surface and accepts the recipient for whom he/she is, regardless of their flaws, shortcomings or faults. It’s the type of love that everyone strives to have for their fellow human beings. Although you may not like someone, you decide to love them just as a human being. This kind of love is all about sacrifice as well as giving and expecting nothing in return. The translation of the word agape is love in the verb – form: it is the love demonstrated by your behavior towards another person. It is a committed and chosen love.

# PHILIA

Philia love refers to an affectionate, warm and tender platonic love. It makes you desire friendship with someone. It’s the kind of love which livens up the Agape love. Although you may have an agape love for your enemies, you may not have a philia love for the same people.

**Live By Faith** – Romans 1:17 *-* ***17****For in it the righteousness of God is revealed [*[*a*](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=romans+1%3A17&version=NASB#fen-NASB-27948a)*]from faith to faith; as it is written, “[*[*b*](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=romans+1%3A17&version=NASB#fen-NASB-27948b)*]But the righteous man shall live by faith.”*

**REFLECTION:**

How did your faith impact the way you lived this past week?

How does living by faith impact the way we deal with tragedy?

God is NOT an idol – what is an idol? He is bigger than that