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Living by faith does not mean that we ignore our reality—it means we choose to see our reality through God's perspective. Habakkuk ultimately transitions from a place of questioning and confusion to one of worship and trust. We see this in the final chapter of the book; he praises God despite his unanswered questions, saying, "Yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will joy in the God of my salvation" (Habakkuk 3:18). This is the power of faith—it assures us that God is at work, even when we cannot see it.

As we journey through our own storms, let us remember the promise that the just shall live by faith. May we cultivate a heart of trust, placing our reliance not on our understanding or the visible world around us, but wholly on the faithfulness of our God.

Lift Up in Prayer

Leaders of the World as they navigate complex challenges; Archie's recovery from surgery; Yu Bedwell's uncle as he undergoes cancer treatment; Isra's friend Rosales facing significant medical challenges and a possible two-organ transplant; David's four children—salvation, faith, and obedience; Alondra and her pregnancy—health and success throughout this journey; Jacinth's recovery from her previous operation; Jonathan's wife—God's healing as she undergoes chemotherapy. Please join us in praying for Caleb and Carissa Pierce as they enter a new season as long-term caregivers for a sweet baby boy they're calling Beau. Jim as he departs the Army for the civilian sector. God, guide Isaiah Whalen as he seeks a ministry role and begins his graduate studies. Grant him clarity, strength, and favor in every step he takes. please strengthen and unite Western Hills Christian Church. Guide its leaders, encourage its members, and help the congregation serve with love, wisdom, and one heart. In Jesus' name, Amen.

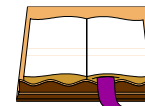
CHURCH OF CHRIST

Sunday Bible Study 10:00

Sunday Worship 11:00

Camp Humphreys Pacific

Victors Chapel (Sanctuary)



Wednesday Bible Study 18:30

Camp Humphreys Pacific

Victors Chapel

Rooms: 143 (Adults)

164 (Children)

September 13, 2026

No. 472

"And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." (John 8:31)

Living by Faith

By Francis Schaeffer

In the book of Habakkuk, a prophetic dialogue unfolds between the prophet Habakkuk and God. This dialogue emerges from Habakkuk's deep concern for Judah, who in the face of oppression, injustice, and rampant immorality, appears to be abandoned by God. Habakkuk raises poignant questions: "How long, O Lord, must I call for help?" (Habakkuk 1:2). He is struggling with God's timing and the apparent success of evildoers. God responds with profound insights and reassurance, culminating in the stunning verse, "Behold, his soul which is lifted up is not upright in him: but the just shall live by his faith" (Habakkuk 2:4, KJV).

This verse invites us to juxtapose two worlds, the world of the proud and the world of the just. In the first part of the verse, we encounter the proud soul. This individual is self-reliant, acting out of arrogance and a sense of superiority. When someone is described as having a soul that is "lifted up," it speaks to pride and a disconnect from God's righteousness. The proud often place their trust in their abilities, achievements, and worldly power. However, God indicates that this soul is "not upright in him." Such a person is misaligned – they are self-deceived, believing themselves to be righteous when they are far from God's design for justice and humility.

(Continue page 2)

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In contrast, the verse leads us into the heart of what it means to be just. "The just shall live by his faith" is a profound declaration that brings hope and direction. The word 'just' refers to those who have been justified before God, those who have acknowledged their need for divine grace, and through faith, have entered a covenant relationship with God.

To "live by faith" is more than a mere acknowledgment of belief; it is a daily, moment-by-moment commitment to trust God amidst uncertainty. Faith here is transformative. The just don't rely on their sight or circumstances; they rely on God's promises and character. In an age of uncertainty, when fear can easily cloak our hearts, we must remember that our faith is anchored in an unchanging God, whose plans for us are ultimately good.

Consider the original audience: the Israelites faced the brutal reality of Babylonian oppression. As they were swept away by calamity, the call to live by faith was a reminder that their survival and hope lay not in political alliances or military might, but in their unwavering trust in God. This remains true for us today. Our contemporary world mirrors much of the chaos and depravity that Habakkuk observed. Injustice abounds, and it can be tempting to despair or to be consumed by anger at the state of the world.

However, when we lean into faith, even the smallest of it, we align ourselves with God's righteous plan. Romans 1:17 reiterates this truth: "For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith." Faith becomes a lens through which we view our circumstances, allowing us to rise above despair.

(Continue page 4)



Notes:

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Totals for

September 6, 2026

Attendance:

33

Contribution:

120.00 Dollars

72,000 KRW