



Group Guide

The Life of Job

January 28, 2024

Main Passage: Job 1:1-22; 2:7-10

Theological Theme

God's faithfulness to us is not dependent on our circumstances, and it is possible to maintain a godly witness in the face of great adversity.

Introduction

- ❓ When faced with hardship, who do you typically turn to for advice?
- ❓ What is your most common reaction when struggles come your way? Why is that the case?

1. The Man with It All (Job 1:1-5)

It is not clear who wrote this book, and many believe Job penned the words about his life himself. Regardless of the author, this book gives perspective on dealing with the inevitable difficulties of life brought about by the brokenness of the world.

- ❓ What are some things you know from past study or teaching about Job?
- ❓ How are all of God's people called to live in the way Job was described in this passage?
- ❓ Application: Where is God calling you to take spiritual responsibility for yourself or your family? How do you need to respond?

2. Losing It All (Job 1:6-19; 2:7-8)

After learning the context of Job's life on earth, the text shifts focus to a scene in heaven. The angelic beings were coming before God in heaven and Satan was among them. Here we are reminded that Satan is under God's authority and not on equal footing with Him.

- ❓ What does this interaction teach you about God's authority over everything and everyone, including Satan? How are you encouraged or challenged by this?
- ❓ God had confidence in Job because Job placed his trust in God. What does that teach us about where our ultimate hope and stability is found?
- ❓ Application: Be honest, how would you respond if you were faced with the same tragedies as Job? Many people have faced deep tragedy in the world. How does this text point us to care and compassion for those around us who are suffering?

3. Lessons from Job (Job 1:20-22; 2:9-10)

In what may be a surprise to many readers, Job responded to his initial losses with faith and godliness. We are told of his mourning, but he did not sin. Trusting the Lord doesn't mean you will not be sad, broken-hearted, and devastated over loss. But as we see from Job, those who have faith in the Lord do not mourn the same as those without hope.

- ❓ How have you experienced the difference between mourning in faith and mourning without hope?
- ❓ Have you ever faced a time when others mocked you for keeping faith in God? How did you respond? What makes this so difficult?
- ❓ Application: How are you encouraged to respond to difficulty in your life through studying the account of Job?

Conclusion

Suffering is a given for all people. Difficult things occur in all our lives, and those who know the Lord can be a strong witness during those times, just as we see in the life of Job. Job was a man who had everything and was highly respected by his peers but cared most of all about the opinion of the Lord.

- ❓ How have you seen and experienced the presence of the Lord in your suffering?
- ❓ How can we support one another and encourage one another toward godliness amid suffering?
- ❓ How might you have a gospel conversation with someone by sharing about the life of Job?