

# The Book of Job

WHEN TRIALS COME

## Bible Studies from the Book of Job Book 2



## **Seven Studies from the Book of Job**

### Book 1

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| Study 1 | We never see the big picture<br>Job 1-2      |
| Study 2 | Is life worth living?<br>Job 3               |
| Study 3 | How (not) to comfort the downcast<br>Job 4-6 |
| Study 4 | Where deeper wisdom can be found<br>Job 28   |

### Book 2

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|---------|---|
| Study 5 | Making wise decisions like Job<br>Job 31        |
| Study 6 | What is God doing during our pain?<br>Job 40-41 |
| Study 7 | Moving beyond grief<br>Job 42                   |

## **Study 5**

# **Making wise decisions like Job – Job 28**

1. How many times would you actively repent of your sin during a typical week? Daily? Once a week during confession in church? Is the pursuit of holiness a big priority for you?

2. Read Job 31:1-4. What life decisions does Job tell us of here? What motivation does he state for making this decision? Is lustful looking all that bad? Why or why not?

3. Does anyone in the grip have any wisdom to share when it comes to guarding what it is we look at?

4. Read vs 9-12. What has Job strived to avoid all his life? According to verse 11, why would failing in this area be so serious?

5. What can church communities do to help members maintain sexual purity?

6. What are the particular temptations brought about by being in a position of power?

7. Read vs 13-15. What do you think Job would have been like as a boss?

8. What is the underlying principle behind Job's treatment of his servants, according to verse 15?

9. Read vs 16-28. Do you find anything admirable about Job's attitude to his wealth? How would you describe the place of money in Job's life?

10. Read v29 to the end of the chapter. What other decisions has Job made in his life? Are they the types of decisions that you would like to make?

11. What word does 1 Cor 6:9-11 have for those who've failed to make the same decisions in life than Job? Pray that the same Holy Spirit who washes us clean might also empower us to live with the wisdom displayed in Job's life.

## **Study 6**

# **What is God doing during our pain?**

## **Job 40-41**

1. When does God seem most silent to you?
2. When we feel that God seems slow in responding to our troubles, which sins might we be more vulnerable towards?
3. Read ch 40.1-14. As God answers Job, in what way does it appear that Job has slipped? Note v8. See Job 9:14-24 for what is perhaps a good example.
4. Read 40:15-24. How is the behemoth described? What point is God making in providing this description? Note vs19 and 24.
5. Which other Biblical creature sounds Leviathan-esque? See Rev 20:1-2.

6. Given what we have seen in the rest of Job (particularly the opening chapters), does it make sense to you to understand these beasts in chs 40-41 as being representative of Satan? Why or why not?

7. What points might God be making in his description of these evil beasts about (a) their relationship to humanity and (b) their relationship to God?

8. How do these chapters complete our understanding of Job and what he has endured?

9. How can these chapters bring comfort to us when we feel like we are under attack? What *is* God doing when bad things happen?

10. Read Rev 20:1-10 and give thanks for the final victory which is to come.

## **Study 7**

# **Moving beyond grief - Job 42**

1. In your own experience or through your own observations, how long can grief last?
  
2. Read ch 42:1-6. Job's lamenting ends after hearing what kind of message? What does this suggest is needed by people as they pass through grief?
  
3. Read vs 7-9. What is God's reaction to the pastoral help offered by Job's friends?
  
4. What does God ask Job to do for his friends? Might Job have found this easy? See also Matt 5:44!
  
5. Is seeking the good of those who've hurt you something you've ever tried to do? If you feel able, tell the group a little about it.
  
6. What might be involved in seeking restoration with people who've caused you harm?

7. Read vs 10-17. What reaction do you have to the way God blessed the latter part of Job's life?

8. What light does the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of v11 shed on the on-going nature of Job's recovery?

9. Read James 5:7-11 In what way is Job meant to be a model for us? According to James, *when* can we expect our own Job-like blessing and restoration?

10. Pray for those who are learning to live on the other side of a great loss.