



HMR Men's Neighborhood Bible Study

Job - A Man of Trials, Tribulations, and Faithfulness

Lesson #6: Job 32 - 37 (Solution per Elihu)

Tuesday, November 17, 2020 | 7:00 PM | Prepared by Chris Alexander
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Series Overview

The book of Job provides one of the greatest narratives addressing the interaction of God, man, and Satan. We not only observe God's Sovereignty displayed in this incredible book, but the book dispels the notion that *bad things can't happen to good people*. The trials and tribulations to which Job was subjected, including the loss of his sons, daughters, wealth, and health, were used to display the incredible power God has in controlling the events in our lives and the faithfulness that one man could exhibit while enduring some of life's greatest challenges.

During the "time of COVID" we need to study men like Job in all their humanity struggle with the unknowns of life, while also trusting in God's overall goodness and mercy. When we know God has a plan, specifically one for our lives, it makes almost any experience bearable. As Paul wrote in 2 Corinthians 12:10 (NIV): *That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.*

Provided below is the outline for our series that will cover 42 chapters in the book of Job over a 7-lesson period. All Scripture is God-breathed and intended to transform our lives. The book of Job is no exception as God intended for us to learn from Job's experiences. God's desire is that as we endure trials and tribulations in our own lives, we remain laser-focused on Him and His plan for our lives. It is essential that we believe He has everything under control, that nothing surprises Him, and through all circumstances His desire is to transform us to be more like Jesus.

Focus	Dilemma of Job	Debate of Job					Deliverance of Job
Lesson Number	1 September 8	2 September 22	3 October 6	4 October 20	5 November 10	6 November 17	7 December 1
Divisions	Controversy between God and Satan	First Cycle of Debate	Second Cycle of Debate	Third cycle of Debate	Final Debate from Job	Solution per Elihu	Controversy between God and Job
Biblical Passage	Job 1:1 to 2:13	Job 3:1 to 14:22	Job 15:1 to 21:34	Job 22:1 to 26:14	Job 27:1 to 31:40	Job 32:1 to 37:24	Job 38:1 to 42:17
Topics	Conflict & Prose	Debate & Poetry					Repentance & Prose
Location	Heaven & Earth	Land of Uz (North Arabia)					Heaven & Earth
Time	Patriarchal Period (c. 2,000 B.C.)						

We're almost to the end of our journey together as we've explored the book of Job. It's been quite a ride as we've looked at the tremendous heartache and grief associated with loss of his family and worldly possessions, while also enduring the confrontation and questioning of his closest friends. We're not done yet. This week he deals with the fiery reproach from a younger man named Elihu, while next week we tackle God's response to all He has heard.

Today's theme is "knowing when to speak". For those of us who like to talk, this is a constant challenge. The wisdom associated with knowing *what to say, when to say it, and how to say it* is rare indeed. Hopefully, tonight's lesson will help us better understand how to become men who speak the truth in a culture that seems so opposed to finding it.

1. Part of life is knowing when to speak and when not to speak. How important is "how and when" we speak in relation to "what" we say? Communication in marriage is always an excellent opportunity to observe successes and failures in this area!

2. Obviously, Elihu was a young man. Someone once said, 'If you are not a liberal when you are young, you have no heart, and if you are not a conservative when old, you have no brain' (often it is attributed to Winston Churchill, although it did not originate with him).
 - a. What is it about being young that makes us idealist?

 - b. How well do we receive correction from a young man or woman?

 - c. How well are we doing in developing the upcoming generation of young men? Let's discuss some ways we can improve.

3. As with all communication in the book of Job, all men have spoken truth and said some great things about God. Read Job 34:16-20. One of the great challenges with mankind has been our absence of humility. What does this passage say about our position relative to God and is it important for us to remind ourselves of this from time to time?

4. **Wrapping it all up.** Read Job 37:14-18. Dictionary.com defines presumptuous as *full of, characterized by, or showing presumption or readiness to presume in conduct or thought, as by saying or doing something without right or permission. unwarrantedly or impertinently bold; forward*. In reading this passage of Job one might conclude his friends were presumptuous.
 - a. What has made the friends of Job presumptuous in their comments?

 - b. How can we avoid being presumptuous when we are called to admonish people, especially those who might in sin?

 - c. As followers of Jesus, how can we best honor God when admonishing others?

Next Meeting Date: Our last lesson in this series is Tuesday, December 1st at 7:00 PM (Job 38 to 42: *Controversy between God and Job*).