

DISCUSSION GUIDE

MAY 9/10, 2020

WHEN GOD TAKES AWAY – NOW WHAT?

JOB 1

Note to Leaders: Every group is different, please choose the questions that relate best to your particular group.

FOR STARTERS

1. This weekend we celebrate Mother's Day. Share a couple of things about your mom that you are most thankful for.
2. Share the most difficult loss that you are experiencing during this season of life.

DIGGING IN

1. Read Job 1:1-12.
 - a. Unpack the four qualities that describe Job's character (verse 1).
 - b. What do we know about his devotion to God in verse 5?
 - c. What is Satan's premise on why Job is so "godly" (verses 9-11)?
2. Read Job 1:13-22. What was Job's response to his suffering and losses? Unpack the different things mentioned in verses 20-21.
3. When Job's entire body is afflicted with sores in Chapter 2, what was his response? Look at 2:8-10.
4. The stages of grief begin with denial and then move to anger.
 - a. What is Job angry with in Chapter 3? Look at verses 3:3, 11.
 - b. What is Job saying to God? Look at Job 7:20.

5. What did his friends conclude about Job's suffering?
 - a. Look up Eliphaz's speech in Job 4:7-9. What is being implied here?
 - b. Look up Bildad's in Job 8:1-6.
 - c. Look up Zophar's in Job 20:23-29.
6. What did God say about his friends in Job 42:7-9? How is it that they did not represent God accurately in their interactions with Job? Look up James 5:11 and try to figure out how their view of God (and ours) often strays from seeing Him as filled with mercy and compassion.
7. What do we know about perseverance from the following passages: James 1:1-4 and Romans 5:3-5?

BRINGING IT HOME

1. How's the persevering part of your faith doing? How is God making you stronger and how has He helped you hang on to Him in tough times?
2. How have you reacted to recent losses, whether COVID-19 induced or not, and how does the story of Job help?
3. Marc mentioned that, like Job, we should acknowledge our losses, grieve, bring the pain and questions we have to God hanging on to God's goodness. It's a struggle—the fight of faith is intensified through our losses, which means, like Job, we may need to repent of things we say or do during it all. Where is God calling you to grow and what do you need to confess?
4. How does this message help us come around others who are experiencing loss and suffering?

GOING DEEPER

1. As a group pray for each other using James 1:2-4 as a guide.
2. Read, meditate on and memorize this Scripture: "Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything." James 1:2-4

PRAYER REQUESTS

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