

December 5

In person for 3 & under

At home for 4 & up

GOD CONTROLS EVERYTHING (Job)

RECAP

Christ Connection

Preschool: The story of Job reminds us of Jesus. Jesus is the only person who never sinned, but He suffered to take the punishment for our sin. Jesus comforts us when we suffer, and we can trust Him..

Elementary: Job learned that God is all-powerful, sovereign, and good. When we face suffering, we can hope in God. God sent Jesus, the only truly innocent One, to suffer and die so that everyone who trusts in Him can have forgiveness and eternal life.

Big Picture Question:

Who is in control of everything? God is in control of everything. Nothing is outside of God's good plan.

Key Passage Phrase:

The Lord is great. Psalm 135:5-6

PRESCHOOL REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. **Who gave Satan permission to take away everything Job had?** *(God gave Satan permission to take away everything Job had.)*
2. **How many friends visited Job at first?** *(Three friends visited Job at first.)*
3. **Whom did Job want to ask questions to?** *(Job wanted to ask God questions about what happened to him.)*
4. **What did God come in to talk to Job?** *(God came in a whirlwind to talk to Job.)*
5. **Did Job trust God at the end of the story?** *(Yes, Job trusted God at the end of the story.)*
6. **Who is in control of everything?** *God is in control of everything.*

ELEMENTARY DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. **Why did Job choose to trust God?** *Lead kids to recognize that Job understood everything he had was a gift from God. God had been kind to Job and provided his home, his family, and his health. Job knew that God gives good gifts and has the right to take them away. He gives us Himself and promises to never leave us. (Option: Choose a volunteer to read Ps. 37:25-26.)*
2. **How can we remember the 'bigger picture' when we face suffering?** *Assure kids that sometimes when we are hurting, we have a hard time imagining life ever getting better. When we lift our eyes to Jesus—through prayer, worship, or Bible reading—we remember that God controls everything. We can encourage others who are hurting to look to God as well. (Option: Choose a volunteer to read Ps. 121:1.)*
3. **How does Jesus give us hope in hard times?** *Remind kids that Jesus came to earth as the only truly innocent One. He never sinned, yet He suffered by dying on the cross for our sins. We trust God's promise that one day Jesus will return and wipe away every tear from our eyes. He will put an end to sin, suffering, and death. We have hope knowing suffering on earth is temporary. One day, we will live with God and have true life and joy forever. (Option: Choose a volunteer to read Rom. 12:12.)*

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THE GOSPEL PROJECT @HOME

FAMILY WORSHIP

Consider doing this during a designated time each week or before/after a meal together:

Read all or parts of Job 1-2 from the Bible, talk about the scripture, pray and do the fun activity or family serve project this week.

If you read or watch the news, you will soon discover that most of the news is bad news. Sometimes all of this bad news can cause us to ask why God would allow so many bad things to happen and so many people to suffer. We are not the first to ask these important questions. When Job lost everything—including his family—this is basically what he asked.

God answered Job, in part, by reminding him that He was all-powerful, always in control, and always good. Although Job couldn't understand what God was doing, Job wanted to trust in who God is. Through all the suffering, while Job didn't understand God correctly, he never turned away from Him. In the end, God helped Job understand Him better and He gave Job everything he had lost—and even more.

Romans 5:3-4 tells us that we can rejoice in suffering because “suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope...” Even when we don't understand the suffering that is happening to us or someone else that we care about, we can trust that God is good, He is present, and He is in control.

When we face hard things in life, we can still trust in God and His plans. Need proof? Just think about the cross. At the cross, God used the ultimate pain and suffering to bring the ultimate Good News—our salvation from sin.

Job learned that God is all-powerful, sovereign, and good. When we face suffering, we can hope in God. God sent Jesus, the only truly innocent One, to suffer and die so that everyone who trusts in Him can have forgiveness and eternal life.

***Pray:** God, help us always remember that You are in control. Help us to trust that You love us and have a plan for us—even when we face hard times. No matter what we face, help us to be faithful to You and to tell others about Your great love for us.*

FAMILY PRAYER

Mornings

Ask God to help you bless His name today, even if things don't go well. Why could Job say “Blessed be His name” even when things were bad? How can we remember God's goodness in times of trouble?

Evenings

Make a list of all the things you have to be thankful for. Praise God for the blessings He has given to you and your family. How can we share our blessings with others to help them know Jesus?

FAMILY ACTIVITIES

For Fun

Plan a day of fun for your kids, but do not tell them any of the details. If they ask where you're going or what you'll do, remind them to trust that you have a plan. After the day of fun, talk about how it can be frustrating not to know what will happen next. Even in those moments, we can trust that God is all-powerful, sovereign, and good. We can always trust His plans for us.

To Serve

Visit a nursing home or hospital to comfort the residents. Read books, play games, or think of other tangible ways your family can bring peace and joy to the residents. Talk with your kids about how we can be a comfort for those who are suffering because we know and trust God as the ultimate source of comfort.