

Use the following thoughts and questions to have a spiritual conversation as a family. Don't emphasize having the right answer, but focus on spending time discussing the Word as a family.

## Scripture

Job 1:6-12,20-22; 9:14-16,32-35

## Session Summary

Have you ever heard the phrase “patience of Job”? Usually, we use this phrase to talk about someone who is incredibly patient. And Job definitely was that. It can be difficult to know what to do when facing the reality of suffering. It is not something we like to think about, but it happens. Even in this, we can look to God and His Word to help us understand. Job was a godly man who suffered greatly, and God allowed it. Job lost his children, his home, many of his servants and animals—the devil destroyed many of the good things in Job's life. But Job still had his wife, his health, and faith in God. Job trusted even when it was difficult, and even when others encouraged him not to trust. But a time came when Job wondered where God was, and even “cursed the day he was born” (Job 3:1). Still, God comforted Job and reminded Him that His ways are greater than ours (Isa. 55:9). As God reminded Job, He is faithful even when we wonder where He is. He is never distant and He never wavers in His love for us.

## Conversation Questions

- What are some of the most difficult circumstances we have faced as a family? How did we respond to those situations?
- When has our family seen evidence of God drawing close to us in our pain?
- How does our family struggle with the concept of suffering? How does Jesus' suffering on our behalf help us with these struggles?
- Even though they didn't always give the best advice, Job's friends surrounded him in his time of need. Who are the people we can trust to pray and walk with our family through tough times? Who might we need to come alongside of and support as a family?

## Family Challenge

Choose one (or all) of the people you listed in response to the last question. Then, go. Be there for that person or family. Being there doesn't mean having the right words to say. Sometimes, being there means babysitting, cleaning someone's house, cooking a meal, or even listening. Consider what the specific needs of this person/family are and meet them as well as you can. This is one of the ways the body of Christ acts as His hands and feet.