



Embracing the Necessary Disciplines (Part 5)

They Must be Willing to **Lose** Everything

“Loss Is Inevitable but Your Response to it is Decidable”
Dr. Ricky Temple

Text: Genesis 7:16 (NIV)

“The animals going in were male and female of every living thing, as God had commanded Noah. **Then the Lord shut him in.**”

Matthew 16:24-26

24 Then Jesus said to his disciples, “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. 25 For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it. 26 What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul.

Five Abilities Ark Builders Must Have

1. They Must be Able to **Hear** God like Noah (Requires Spirituality)
2. They Must be Able to **Resource** Their Ark Construction (Requires Money)
3. They Must be **Able** to Build Their Ark (This Requires Education) ... **Father's Day Sermon**
4. They Must be Able to **Leave** People Behind (Who are you holding on to?)
5. **They Must be Willing to Lose Everything (What are you willing to lose?)**

Note: The life-experience of Job parallels the life-experience of Noah. They both could easily feel they lost everything and had to start over.

Question: Have you ever felt you lost everything?

Text: **Genesis 6:9-22 (NIV)**

Big Question: What have you learned about yourself since the loss?

- A. I learned how **vulnerable** I could be during a loss season
- B. I learned how to **fill the vacuum** left by the loss with new dreams

C. I learned how to **fairly judge** the loss and compare it to those around me

I. Job's Tragic Loss

(Job 1:13-21)

13 One day when Job's sons and daughters were feasting and drinking wine at the oldest brother's house, 14 a messenger came to Job and said, "The oxen were plowing and the **donkeys** were grazing nearby, 15 and the Sabeans attacked and made off with them. They put the servants to the sword, and I am the only one who has escaped to tell you!" 16 While he was still speaking, another messenger came and said, "The fire of God fell from the heavens and burned up the sheep and the servants, and I am the only one who has escaped to tell you!" 17 While he was still speaking, another messenger came and said, "The Chaldeans formed three raiding parties and swept down on your camels and made off with them. They put the servants to the sword, and I am the only one who has escaped to tell you!" 18 While he was still speaking, yet another messenger came and said, "Your sons and daughters were feasting and drinking wine at the oldest brother's house, 19 when suddenly a mighty wind swept in from the desert and struck the four corners of the house. It collapsed on them and they are dead, and I am the only one who has escaped to tell you!" 20 At this, Job got up and tore his robe and shaved his head. Then he fell to the ground in worship 21 and said: (Job 1:13–21, NIV)

II. Six Things Job Lost

1. His **oxen** (14)
2. His **donkeys** (14)
3. His **sheep** (v16)
4. His **camels** (17)
5. His **servants** (v16, 17, 15,)
6. His **children** (sons and daughters, v18)

III. How Job Responded to his Lost¹

"Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked I will depart. The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away; may the name of the Lord be praised."

22 In all this, Job did not sin by charging God with wrongdoing. (Job 1:21–22, NIV)

¹ See Appendix 1

- A. He understood how he came into the world with nothing (v21)
- B. He understood how he would leave the world with nothing (v21)
- C. He understood God gave him everything he possessed (v21)
- D. He understood everything can be taken away (v21)
- E. He understood the importance of guarding his words under pressure (v22)

Closing Questions

Ask the congregation:

- What are you afraid to lose that might be keeping you from building your ark?
- Can you trust God when He allows what you never expected?

Final Scripture: Matthew 16:25 “ –Whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it.”

Appendix 1

Point	Job’s Response	Supporting Scripture
Job Had Challenges With His Losses	Lost family, wealth, health	Job 1:13–19
He Prayed	Worshiped God despite the pain	Job 1:20–22
He Ignored Them	Dismissed unhelpful friends	Job 2:11–13; 13:5
He Wrestled With Loss	Questioned life and suffering	Job 3:11
He Was Mature	Honored God even when confused	Job 1:22; 42:1–3