

Discussion Guide

Discussion Guides accompany the [weekly message](#).

Opening Activity:

Tell about a time when learning the fuller story changed how you understood what happened.

Read:

Job 1:1-22

2 Corinthians 4:16-18

1 Peter 5:8-10

Discussion Questions:

1. Read Job 1:1-5. What do these verses reveal about Job's character and life? How does his story challenge the assumption that suffering always results from a person's failure or lack of faith?
2. According to Job 1:6-12, what do the limits placed on the Accuser reveal about God's authority and Satan's power? How does knowing that Satan's power is limited challenge the way you think about spiritual opposition or fear?
3. Compare what readers see in Job 1:6-12 with what Job experiences in verses 13-19. Tell about a season when you could only see the earthly side of your suffering. How did that season affect your faith and your view of God?
4. Job was blameless, not sinless. How should that shape the way we view another person's suffering?
5. When pain has no clear explanation, which response comes most naturally to you: withdrawing from God, demanding an answer, pretending you are fine, or drawing closer to Him? Why?
6. Read 1 Peter 5:8-10. Without assuming that every hardship is a direct attack from Satan, what does it look like to remain alert, resist temptation, and trust God while suffering? Where do you need God's strength to stand firm right now?
7. How can trusting God's sovereignty differ from claiming to know His specific reason for every tragedy?
8. Read 2 Corinthians 4:16-18. How can eternal hope sustain us without minimizing present pain?
9. What has helped you when you have experienced suffering? What well-meant words or cliches made the pain harder?
10. What suffering are you struggling to entrust to God's sovereignty? What is one honest prayer you can pray, and how can this group walk with you this week?

Challenge for the Week:

On three days this week, read Job 1:20-22 and 2 Corinthians 4:16-18. Honestly name your pain to God and share one prayer need with your group. Then encourage or serve someone who is suffering.