

Week of October 10, 2021

Job 23:1-9

Then Job answered:

² "Today also my complaint is bitter; his hand is heavy despite my groaning.

³ Oh, that I knew where I might find him, that I might come even to his dwelling!

⁴ I would lay my case before him, and fill my mouth with arguments.

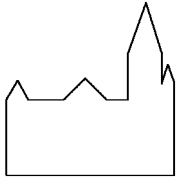
⁵ I would learn what he would answer me, and understand what he would say to me.

⁶ Would he contend with me in the greatness of his power? No; but he would give heed to me.

⁷ There an upright person could reason with him, and I should be acquitted forever by my judge.

⁸ "If I go forward, he is not there; or backward, I cannot perceive him;

⁹ on the left he hides, and I cannot behold him; I turn to the right, but I cannot see him.



Group Leader

Remember: you don't need to use all of the questions. Go with what works. Give people a chance to think before answering, but if a question falls flat, move on. Let the discussion go where it needs to go, as long as it remains centered around the lesson. Give the participants page 1. Use this page for yourself.

Gathering questions:

- A. What traits make a "good" person?
- B. What grade would you give yourself at life?

Bible Study Questions:

1. Why do you think Job feels that he cannot find God?
2. In verse 5, what do you think Job expects from God?
3. In verse 7, what do you think Job means by saying that he would be acquitted? Does he feel accused?
4. How do you look for God's activity in the world? Where might God be active but you are unable to see it?
5. In the first chapter of the book, Job loses his children and possessions. (Remember this is a moral story, not a history.) Would it have been better for him to have never had them?
6. How would you attempt to balance out the ways in which life has been unfair to you against the ways life has been more than fair to you? How could you make that judgment?
7. Should fairness be a goal? Where does grace fit into your understanding of what is fair? How can you be more than fair with others?

Closing prayer: particularly invite prayers about non-material ways to be generous with others.