

Families On Mission Week 2 Devotional Guide

Job has some really deep themes. You may find that the discussion questions resonate more with you as an adult or lend themselves more naturally to older children than the littles, but I think you'll be surprised at how many different ways we can pass along the lessons contained in the following chapters even to the youngest among us.

Day 8- Job 2 - Satan Attacks Job's Person

Satan once again gets the liberty to attack Job, and this time he is allowed to attack Job's person. He physically inflicts painful boils on Job, causing his wife to tell him to "curse God and die."

Once again, though, we see a response from Job that defies explanation other than incredible grace from a good God. "*Shall we indeed accept good from God and not accept adversity?*" (v10)

In our own flesh, no one would have a reaction like this, so from our vantage point, Job's response may bring to mind how the Lord answered Paul in 2 Corinthians 12:9 as Paul asked that his thorn in the flesh be taken away from him, "*My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness.*" (*The Holy Spirit will often bring passages like that to mind as you're reading His Word. That is a great way to know that He is actively teaching you through His living Word. Is that not amazing?!*)

Even way back in history, before the pages of scripture were being penned, we see God working in the heart of a man, giving him grace beyond imagination and the strength to endure horrible Satanic attacks. We, too, can fully trust and rely on our great, good God.

Possible meditation, discipleship, and discussion questions:



- Was it "fair" for Job to be treated that way? Had he done anything to deserve it? No, not one of us would deem it "fair."
- What exactly is "fair?" (ALWAYS a good conversation to have with our children-- and within our own hearts as we wrestle with what we deem unfair as well.)
- Do you think you would have reacted the way Job did? How about Job's wife? Those are two very different reactions!
- If you are a spouse (or if you're going to be one someday!) what can we learn from Job's wife's reaction to all that had happened? Do you think her reaction was helpful to her husband?

How often do we do our spouses a great disservice by the way we react to things that come into our lives or theirs, by claiming our "rights" or deeming something "unfair"? God has really been working in my heart about this very thing using James 3:17. I plan to share more about that soon via [Teach Them Diligently 365](#), but I encourage you to check it out as you seek wisdom for how to react in any situation you face.

Day 9-- Job 3--Job's Lament

At the end of chapter 2, we meet Job's friends who come together to sit with him and minister to him.

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We can learn from them what a difference we can make for people when we just listen to them, for the Bible tells us that they “*didn’t speak a word to him, for they saw his suffering was very great.*”

Clearly, their ministry of mercy worked, for Job opened up about the deep anguish of his soul as he laments even being born. Here, we get a front row seat for a deep hurt that goes beyond what most of us can even imagine.

Possible meditation, discipleship, and discussion questions:

- *How can we know that God cares for us even when we’re hurting so bad we wish we were never even born?* It is so important to know very well Who God is, so that you are armed with truth when Satan attacks and whispers lies to you. What do you know about God? His character? His ways? His works? What do your children know? Do you talk to Him, meditate on His Word, and seek His face daily? For Job to have the reactions that he did, he had to know God well.
- *How does Job’s anguish in wishing he had never been born compare to the anguish we hear from Jesus when He cries, “My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?” in Matthew 27?*

We can’t forget, nor can we let our children forget that Jesus knows. He understands. He sees. His grace is sufficient for us if we will just trust Him and lean on what we know to be true.

Day 10-- Job 38-- The Lord answers Job face to face

Up to this point in Job, there has been a lot of back and forth discussion between Job and his friends that was more theoretical in nature, and

sometimes we even see the players using references to God simply to reinforce their point.

Here, though, God Himself steps onto the stage. Can you even imagine? I fear that I have glossed over that fact before as I have read this passage many times in the past. God talked directly to Job-- and through the recorded Word of God, to us as well! Whoa!

The gist of God’s message is to show Job how little of God’s great works he really understands. As God lays that out, we all get a glimpse and a wonderful reminder of just how massively awesome and powerful the God we serve-- and Whom we call Father-- really is.

Possible meditation, discipleship, and discussion questions:

- *How would you feel if God spoke directly to you through a whirlwind like this? It’s always helpful to put ourselves in the story like that and imagine how we would have reacted or felt.*
- *What are the different illustrations God uses to give Job a better idea of His immense power and wisdom? (ie: the measurement of the earth, hanging the constellations in space, sending forth lightning...)*
- *When we meditate on those things, how should our own issues look when we hand them over to Almighty God?*

We can trust God-- and so could Job and his friends. That should give moms and dads and children of all ages great hope and strengthened faith!

Day 11-- Job 39-- The Lord’s Omnipotence

Here, God continues to make distinctions between Himself and Job-- and they are many and big.

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It is often helpful to step back from our own problems or issues for a while to get perspective. In this passage, God helps Job do just that as He lays out a myriad of things that Job and His friends never gave any thought to (and I certainly didn't as well!) Yet, God knew and cared about each one from the mountain goats to the majestic hawk. How much more does He care for and have an intimate knowledge of those made in His very own image?

Are there any situations in your own life and family that looking at God through this lens may give you peace and hope right now?

Possible meditation, discipleship, and discussion questions and ideas:

- *What are some other things you could think of that God knows all about but that you take for granted? Isn't it amazing to know that He knows all about everything-- even things we don't even know exist! What a great God we serve!*
- *Perhaps this would give you a great opportunity to engage your children in praying with you for something only Almighty God could do or fix or take care of. We have found some of the most powerful and impactful discussions we have had through the years with our children were ones where we were able to start looking to God together to do what only God can do-- and then watching in anticipation together to see how His will will play out in the situation.*

Day 12-- Job 40--Job's Reaction

Job's reaction here is the only one that seems reasonable. Job notes his own smallness and

how he had spoken of things he really didn't know. He won't do that again.

God then continues His questioning and teaching of Job. I was reminded as I read this of a parenting principle David and I have always adhered to and that we see modeled by our Heavenly Father here in Job. "Questions prick the conscience. Accusations harden the will."

God uses questions throughout His interactions with Job to open Job's heart and mind to what He wants him to see. There's a great lesson there for all of us.

This chapter finished with God drawing attention to "Behemoth" which God notes He created just like He created Job. Your children should really enjoy reading about him. :)

Possible meditation, discipleship, and discussion questions and ideas:

- *Ah, Behemoth! You could read the description of this massive creature and have your children draw it out as you read. Or, just have them imagine what he could have looked like? What do you think they'll come up with?*
- *Answers in Genesis Buddy Davis has a great song about Behemoth. Click here to check it out with your kiddos now-- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u21wlB6s3pQ> (Or you could search Buddy Davis, Behemoth is a Dinosaur.)*
- *Do you utilize questions with your children to get to the "heart of the matter"? We have found over and over that by asking questions instead of starting with accusations, we can better understand what's going on under the surface and actually get to the root of the problem, which is where we always want to get anyway. Merely dealing with*

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the action will not help us shepherd their heart nearly as much as understanding what's leading to the action. Go deeper with your children, mom and dad! Get to the heart of the matter. Teach them to think Biblically, know God better, and act out of a heart that loves Him solely. It takes work for sure, but it is so worth it in the end!

Day 13-- Job 41- Leviathan

This chapter is super cool as God talks all about leviathan. This creature had to be magnificent, scary, and completely uncontrollable by man. God even tells Job that one may try to attack him once, but he won't do it again. (v8.)

God's point in noting that is that if we can't even stand up to God's creation, how on earth could we possibly stand before His Creator?

Possible meditation, discipleship, and discussion questions and ideas:

- *We needed Someone to make a way for us to stand in the presence of this great God, didn't we? And now, thanks to Jesus' work on the cross, we "can boldly approach the throne of grace" any time we want to-- standing redeemed in the presence of the Creator God Who now calls us His children.* (Hebrews 4:16) Stand in Awe and thank God for His great gift through Jesus Christ our Lord.!

Day 14-- Job 42-- Job's ultimate response

Don't you find yourself right there with Job a lot of times?

Today would be a great day to affirm with your children how great God is, how much He can be trusted, how small our own human

understanding is , and how much we need to rely on God.

Perhaps this is a good day to start a family prayer list to begin together to make your needs and requests known to God. No petition is too small to bring before Him, but there is also no problem too large that He cannot overcome it.

Possible meditation, discipleship, and discussion questions:

- *Our family handled prayer lists several different ways through the years, and it's still a joy to look at some of the old notebooks I have with their prayer requests listed inside. It's as if my grown children are 4 again. :)*
- *One way I really loved handling our prayer requests was utilizing a small, top-bound notebook. We would write 1 request per page, and when that request was answered, we would fold the page in half. As time went on and more pages were folded, our little notebook grew as did our children's faith as they saw God answer their prayers.*

I pray this week of devotion and study has been a blessing for you and your family. If you're interested in diving even deeper into topics ranging from studying God's Word to parenting and marriage to academics and activities for families, I'd love to have you join us at [Teach Them Diligently](#) events or in [Teach Them Diligently 365](#). We endeavor every day to bring resources to families that will strengthen their faith in God and their bond together with their loved ones here on earth. We are praying God will revive families all around the world and each of them will become a FAMILY ON MISSION to impact the world for His Kingdom. Won't you join us?