Date | November 22, 2020 Family Theme | Faith Is Tested by Trials Study Text | Job 1:1 — 2:3

**Objective:** Help your kids learn to trust God when trials and difficulties come their way.

**How This Lesson Fits in the Story of the Bible:** Job is the first of what some call the five books of Wisdom or Poetry literature in the Old Testament (Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Solomon). Scholars believe Job lived after the Flood but shortly before the time of Abraham, even though the Book of Job could have been written much later.

**Bible Basics:** Work with your family to memorize Proverbs 3:5 this week.

## Read the Word: Job 1:1-2:3

# **Disciple Your Kids**

Talk with your kids about the fact that trials and difficulties will come our way. Yet we can trust God in those tough times knowing He will work things out for His glory and our good.



## Key Truth: Walk With God Before Trials Come (Job 1:1-5)

Show your kids how verse 1 tells us that Job's faith produced two specific actions: He feared God and shunned evil. Although not perfect, he sought to live in respectful obedience to what he knew God wanted from people. Job was known for his righteous behavior. Even before the instruction of Deuteronomy 6:5-7, Job took the spiritual leadership of his family seriously, demonstrating how parents are to impress God's ways on their children.



### Key Truth: Know Your Enemy (Job 1:6-19)

Help your kids understand that this interaction between angels, God, and Satan demonstrates that there is a spiritual realm and a spiritual warfare that affects us in this world. Discuss with them how we have an enemy (Satan) who seeks to bring us down and destroy us, but that Satan is no match for our God and has no authority beyond what God allows him.



## Key Truth: Trust God No Matter What (Job 1:20-2:3)

Show your kids that from the book of Job we can learn that we may never see the whole picture and know why certain things happen. Much of our problem comes from looking only at the tiny part of human reality that we can see. We remain ignorant of God's higher ways. In Christ, however, we have a response: God is not indifferent to our sufferings. He too has suffered, through the sacrifice of His Son Jesus Christ. Christ suffered on our behalf. God is good, not unloving. Nor is God powerless against ultimate evil. Christ rose from the dead, and so shall we! For contemporary examples of how God can work through tragedy, check out www.wherewasgod.com

#### **Discussion Starters**

Use one or more of the following questions as discussion starters with your kids this week.

- What kinds of events or situations would cause you to feel like life was falling apart?
- How can trusting God day in and day out help us trust Him when life falls apart?
- How can we stay on guard, understanding we are in a spiritual warfare?
- Why might God allow us to be attacked and suffer through difficult times? How might He cause this to work out for good?
- How can we respond to trials and difficulty in a way that brings glory to God?
- For Elementary: How can trusting God day in and day out help us trust Him when life falls apart?
- For Elementary: How can the five truths you learned help you when going through difficult times?

## **Everyday Extras**

Job had friends who came to share his grief when so many bad things happened to him. Sometimes they were quiet and sat with him to share his suffering. Other times, they gave him advice. It wasn't always good advice! Think of some scenarios for your children. Have them respond with either good advice or bad advice, and let the other people in the family vote on what kind of advice it was. We need to be careful to avoid bad advice from friends and make good decisions on what we listen to. We know that Jesus is the best Friend of all and we can always trust Him.

# Preschool Highlights for SQUARE & ROUND

Today your child learned about a man named Job who loved God and obeyed him in all that he did. One day Job learned all of his children had died and all his animals and servants were gone. Then he got really bad sores all over his body. Even on his worst days, Job knew God was still with him. **God Is With Us All the Time** too.