

### Day 1: God's Justice and Love

Reading: Psalm 89:14-18

As we reflect on Bildad's words to Job, we're reminded that God's justice and love are intertwined. While it's true that God is just, his justice is always tempered by his boundless love. In times of suffering, we may struggle to see God's justice, but it helps to remember that his love for us never wavers. Today, consider how God's justice and love have been evident in your life. How can you trust in his perfect balance of these attributes, even when circumstances seem unfair?

### Day 2: The Danger of Hasty Judgments

Reading: James 1:19-20

Bildad's rush to offer Job advice reminds us of our own tendency to offer quick solutions or judgments to others' pain. James urges us to be "quick to listen, slow to speak." When faced with others' suffering, our first response should be compassionate listening rather than hasty advice. Reflect on a time when you may have spoken too quickly to someone in pain. How can you cultivate a more patient, empathetic approach to supporting others in their struggles?

### Day 3: Seeking God in Suffering

Reading: Lamentations 3:19-26

Job's raw honesty with God teaches us that it's okay to bring our pain and questions directly to our Heavenly Father. Even in his deepest anguish, Job continued to seek God. The author of Lamentations reminds us that God's mercies are new every morning, even in our darkest nights. Today, practice bringing your unfiltered thoughts and feelings to God in prayer. Trust that he is big enough to handle your doubts and strong enough to carry your pain.

### Day 4: The Ministry of Presence

Reading: Romans 12:15

While Bildad's words were often misguided, his presence with Job was significant. Sometimes, the most powerful thing we can do for someone who is suffering is to simply not run from their pain. Paul encourages us to "weep with those who weep." Consider someone in your life who is going through a difficult time. How can you offer the ministry of presence to them today, without feeling the need to "fix" their situation?

## Day 5: God's Sovereignty and Our Trust

Reading: Proverbs 3:5-6

The phrase "God doesn't make mistakes" can sometimes feel trite in the face of suffering. Yet, there's a profound truth in recognizing God's sovereignty. Trusting in God's wisdom doesn't mean we always understand his ways, but it does mean we believe he is working for our ultimate good. Reflect on an area of your life where you're struggling to trust God's plan. How can you take a step today to lean on his understanding rather than your own?