

## SERMON GROUP STUDY GUIDE

What was the most significant thing you learned from the sermon or something in the sermon you didn't quite understand?

### INTRO

Have you ever been in a situation where everything in your life made sense... and then, suddenly, it didn't?

### DIGGING INTO THE TEXT - JOB 1:6-12

- In verse 7, who initiates the conversation: God or Satan? Why is this important?
- Psalm 147:5 reminds us that God already knows all things, so why might God ask Satan where he has been?
- Satan is described as "roaming throughout the earth" (Job 1:7), "the prince of this world" (John 12:31), and a prowling lion seeking someone to devour (1 Peter 5:8). What dangers arise when Christians either ignore Satan's activity altogether or give him too much power?
- Why is it significant that God, and not Satan, is the one who brings Job into the conversation?
- What is Satan suggesting about the true motive behind Job's obedience and worship in verses 9 and 10?
- What does Satan claim will happen if God's protection is removed?
- *"Nothing touches your life that has not first passed through the hands of God."* How does verse 12 support that statement? Does this challenge you?

### TAKEAWAYS

#### SERVANTS OF THE LORD ARE NOT EXEMPT FROM SUFFERING

*Isaiah 52:13; 53:10*

- Job is called "My servant" in Job 1:8, yet God still permits him to suffer in verse 12. How does this challenge the idea that faithfulness to God guarantees health, wealth, or self-fulfillment?
- How does Job's suffering point us forward to Christ?
- *"The church should not be a place where we hide suffering, but where we help each other through it."* What are some ways that believers bear one another's burdens when other are suffering?

#### THE LORD IS GLORIFIED THROUGH THE SUFFERING OF HIS SERVANTS

*2 Corinthians 12:9; Psalm 40:1-3*

- Brad quoted Trapp saying *God's purpose in permitting Job's suffering was "not to gratify the devil, but to glorify Himself, making Satan an instrument of his own shame and infamy."* How does that perspective reshape the way we think about suffering?
- Why do we naturally tend to view weakness and suffering as obstacles instead of opportunities for God to work on us and through us?
- How can your response to suffering influence the faith and worship of others?

### KNOWLEDGE APPLIED

What does this teach us about people? About Jesus? How will we better obey Christ based on what we've just learned? Who will we share this with?