

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

Think about a difficult season in your life. What helped you endure it? What didn't help at all?

DIGGING INTO THE TEXT - JOB 1:1-5

- What specific words are used in verse 1 to describe Job's character? How do these terms relate to one another?
- How does the phrase "fears God and turns away from evil" help define what "blameless and upright" means? Was Job sinless? (*Hint: Romans 3:23*)
- What do we learn about Job's family structure and relationships from verses 2-4?
- What was Job's regular practice after his children's feasting? What does the text emphasize about how often he did this?
- What reason does Job give for offering sacrifices on behalf of his children?
- What does this suggest about his understanding of sin?
- How does Job function in a priest-like role within his family?
- Read Psalm 127:3-5. How does this shape the way we understand his responsibility to and his view of his children? Are you wrestling in prayer for those in your family that are younger than you?

TAKEAWAYS

IN THIS WORLD THERE WILL BE SUFFERING

Psalm 42:5

- Brad said Job forces the question: Is God worthy of worship even if suffering doesn't make sense? How do you honestly answer that question right now?
- Since we can't fully understand our suffering, what is your instinct: accept your limitations and trust God, or keep trying to figure everything out?

IN THIS WORLD GOD IS SOVEREIGN

Isaiah 55:8-9; Proverbs 3:5; Romans 8:28

- Is it difficult for you to trust that God knows better than you, or do you occasionally feel like you could run things a little more efficiently Him?
- Proverbs 3:5 says not to lean on your own understanding. How often do you do that anyway? What does that reveal about your trust in a sovereign God?
- How do you respond when God's ways don't line up with what you expect?

IN THIS WORLD WE HAVE A SAVIOR

John 16:33; Job 19:25

- How does seeing Jesus as the perfect sufferer change the way you interpret your own suffering?
- In the middle of suffering, Job speaks with certainty: "I know that my Redeemer lives." What does that kind of confidence tell us about where his hope is anchored?