

Job Is Blessed

Job 42:1-17

MEMORY VERSE

JOB 42:2

“I know that You can do everything, and that no purpose of Yours can be withheld from You.”

WHAT YOU WILL NEED:

A blindfold and a wad of paper for each child in your class.

Two different colors of cord (vinyl, leather, etc.) approximately 8” long for each child.

Nine empty chairs and red and blue construction paper.

ATTENTION GETTER!

Shepherd Game

You will need a blindfold and a wad of paper for each child in your class. Choose one person to be the shepherd. Have them be blindfolded. The sheep are the wads of paper, which should be placed on the floor around the wolves’ feet. All of the other children in the class will be the wolves. They should stand in a circle around the shepherd and his sheep. One at a time the wolves will try to sneak up and capture a sheep (wad of paper from the floor).

As the shepherd hears noises they can try to tag the child who is trying to get a wad of paper. That wolf when tagged will be out the rest of the game. The game is over when all of the wolves are tagged or all of the sheep are captured. After you have played once you will find that it was very difficult for the shepherd to tag the wolves with the blindfold on.

Next take the blindfold off of the shepherd, gather the sheep and play again. This time the shepherd gets to watch everything. Play until all of the children are tagged or the sheep captured. Gather the class together and ask them which time was it easier to be a shepherd, while blindfolded or with their sight restored? In our story, today, God restored to Job all that he had lost and more.

LESSON TIME!

What a picture we have seen of Job in these last few lessons--lying in dust, his body full of sores, his mind full of anguish and pain. He grieved deeply for his lost children. Sadly, he found no comfort in his friends; they hurt him even more with their words—some true and some not. God was quiet for a long time as Job struggled with difficult questions.

Do you remember our lesson last week? God had not forgotten Job! His love for Job was steadfast. God finally broke the silence and spoke directly to Job. God cleared things up a bit for Job. Job learned through God's awesome revelation that God is powerful and all-knowing, full of wisdom, faithful and just in all His ways. Though God allowed Satan to take away Job's health family, and fortune, the story was not over. **God is faithful to sustain us.**

JOB 42:1-6

Then Job answered the LORD and said:

"I know that You can do everything, And that no purpose of Yours can be withheld from You.

You asked, 'Who is this who hides counsel without knowledge?' Therefore I have uttered what I did not understand, Things too wonderful for me, which I did not know.

Listen, please, and let me speak; You said, 'I will question you, and you shall answer Me.'

"I have heard of You by the hearing of the ear, But now my eye sees You.

Therefore I abhor myself, And repent in dust and ashes."

When God revealed Himself to Job, Job realized how little he actually knew about God. Up to this time, he had been pretty sure of his own words, and his own wisdom; he quickly learned to be quiet before the Lord.

Job had complained before that God's plans could not be stopped (Job 23:13,14). That seemed to make Job unhappy since he did not like the plan he was experiencing at the time! It seems that Job's encounter with God not only humbled and silenced him, but convinced him that his all-knowing, all-powerful Creator knows what is best and does what is good.

JOB 42:7-9

And so it was, after the LORD had spoken these words to Job, that the LORD said to Eliphaz the Temanite, "My wrath is aroused against you and your two friends, for you have not spoken of Me what is right, as My servant Job has.

"Now therefore, take for yourselves seven bulls and seven rams, go to My servant Job, and offer up for yourselves a burnt offering; and My servant Job shall pray for you. For I will accept him, lest I deal with you according to your folly; because you have not spoken of Me what is right, as My servant Job has."

So Eliphaz the Temanite and Bildad the Shuhite and Zophar the Naamathite went and did as the LORD commanded them; for the LORD had accepted Job.

God refers to Job as “my servant” four times in two verses. He is commending Job for the things that he spoke. However, Job’s three friends did not speak the truth about God. Do you think that it is important to think about what we say about God to others? May understand our need to be careful about what we say and how we represent God to others. **God is faithful to sustain us.**

The three friends’ speeches may have sounded really nice and even spiritual with some truth mixed in with it, yet it was Job that God was pleased with. Many people may sound spiritual and say nice things as they seek to represent God. As God’s children, may we be careful and discerning in everything that we hear.

Because of God’s displeasure, God asked the three friends to sacrifice seven bulls and seven rams. Sin costs. It is awesome to consider the consequence of sin and then to realize what it cost to redeem us (save us) from that consequence. Romans 6:26 says, “For the wages of sin is death;...” God saved us from the consequences of sin through the death of His own dear Son. 1 Peter 1:18,19 states: “Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation [received] by tradition from your fathers; but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.” God accepted the sacrifices and Job’s intercession for his friends.

Teacher Note: Job, most likely, lived around the time of Abraham. God commanded this sacrifice be given by the three friends before the law was given to Moses. The sacrifice of animals to cover for sin was a practice even before the time of Job and Abraham (Cain and Abel, Noah).

God covered all the bases with that one offering of Job's three friends. Just like the One offering which came later, His own Son, Jesus.

Did you notice whom God did not mention? It was Elihu, the young man we studied about last week. Scholars say it could be because Elihu did not go along with the other three in saying that suffering implies sin. Maybe, God, knowing Elihu's youthful state, gave him grace—time to grow up and develop more discernment. We really are not sure.

Bracelets of Blessings

You will need two different colors of cord (vinyl, leather, etc.) approximately 8" long for each child. When God restored Job He blessed him greatly. God has also blessed us in many different ways. Can you think of some of the ways He has blessed you? We will be making Bracelets of Blessings to help remind us of all of the ways that God has blessed us.

Explain to the children that we will be tying knots in our two cords to make a Bracelet of Blessings. Each knot will represent a blessing in your life. When you are finished you can wear your bracelet to remind you of all your many blessings.

Place the two cords side by side. Ask a child to hold one end of both you cords. Begin tying knots in your bracelet. When you are done with as many knots as you like, have someone help you to tie it around your wrist. The children will need to pair up to help one another with this bracelet. For younger children, you can help them with the knots. Optional: Use beads between the knots to also represent different blessings.

JOB 42:10-17

And the LORD restored Job's losses when he prayed for his friends. Indeed the LORD gave Job twice as much as he had before.

Then all his brothers, all his sisters, and all those who had been his acquaintances before, came to him and ate food with him in his house; and they consoled him and comforted him for all the adversity that the LORD had brought upon him. Each one gave him a piece of silver and each a ring of gold.

Now the LORD blessed the latter days of Job more than his beginning; for he had fourteen thousand sheep, six thousand camels, one thousand yoke of oxen, and one thousand female donkeys.

He also had seven sons and three daughters.

And he called the name of the first Jemimah, the name of the second Keziah, and the name of the third Keren-Happuch.

In all the land were found no women so beautiful as the daughters of Job; and their father gave them an inheritance among their brothers.

After this Job lived one hundred and forty years, and saw his children and grandchildren for four generations.

So Job died, old and full of days.

So God restored Job's health, his friendships, his property, and his children.

Why did God write the names of the three daughters and not the sons? Maybe one reason is because the girls' names have special meanings. They mean "dove," "cassia"(perfume), and "beautifier" (horn of eye paint). Perhaps these names symbolize the beauty and glory of Job's restoration.

As we consider the story of Job, we see that Job was faithful to God; but more importantly, we see that God was faithful to Job. He never left him or forsook him. He did allow him to be tried with a very, very difficult time. God helped him through the trial, taught Job what He wanted him to learn, and then greatly blessed him on the other side of the trial. James 5:11 states, "Indeed we count them blessed who endure. You have heard of the perseverance of Job and seen the end intended by the Lord—that the Lord is very compassionate and merciful." **God is faithful to sustain us.**

Maybe you are going through a really rough time right now. Understand that God loves you and will help you. He will get you through to the other side no matter what. Do not lose heart. God sees the big picture, and He is faithful to His people. He will never leave us or forsake us. Let's learn to trust the Lord through all times.

Job-Tac-Toe

This game is a variation of tic-tac-toe—played with people instead chalk on the chalkboard. You will need nine empty chairs and red and blue construction paper. Arrange the nine chairs into a tic-tac-toe square. Form two teams. Ask the students questions from the day's lesson. Each correct answer allows the team that answered to place a student on the "board." Have that child sit in one of the chairs. Any completed line (vertical, horizontal, or diagonal) wins the game.

To help identify the teams, use red or blue construction paper. This will help the class to better track which team is winning as well as planning for strategy.

PRAYER

Lead the children in a prayer of commitment to remain faithful to the Lord through trial and testing and to trust Him! If there are any children who have not yet responded to the Gospel, give them opportunity.