

## Wednesday

Please read Job 7:7-21. Job's friends talk *about* God; Job talks *to* God. In a few words, summarize the issues Job raises with God. Which complaints can you personally identify with? Read Job 9:32. Job never asks to be cured. Describe what it is he wants from God. In what ways has Jesus Christ made Job's deepest dream a reality? In tragedy, what difference does it make to know that God has come in the flesh?

*Thank God that he understands your current struggle because he has been here!*

## Thursday

Please read Job 21:1-16. How does Job's reality check contrast with Zophar's view (20:29)? What specific events have made it tough for you to believe there's a good God in control of this world? If you could speak directly with God, what unanswered questions would you ask? Job's friends are convinced they have all the answers. Job only has questions, which he never gets answers for. How do you feel about living with unanswered questions?

*Bring to the Lord your unanswered questions. Ask him for perspective and the wisdom to know how to live with these tensions.*

## Friday

Please read Job 38:1-11; 31-41; 40:1-5. In these chapters, God speaks to Job. What common theme do all of God's questions have? Job's friends said, in effect, you *must* repent. God takes a different approach. He gives Job no direct answers to his questions. Instead, how does Job gain perspective? Why is perspective often better than answers, in the long run, in dealing with life's disappointments and pain? What dimension does Job 19:25-27 add to this perspective?

*Ask God to help you live in worship and reverence of him, with a healthy sense of the joys and brevity of life, and the certainty of life with God forever!*

## Saturday

Please read Psalm 95 to prepare yourself for yourself for sharing in the Lord's Supper tomorrow.

*Ask God to soften your heart and make you receptive to his truth and his people. Pray that you will worship God with your entire being—heart, soul, mind, and strength. Pray that both services will be pleasing offerings of worship to our great God.*



# The Storms of Life

Message by Rick McRostie on Sunday, October 25, 2015

*"I will hide beneath the shadow of your wings until this violent storm is past." Psalm 57:1b (NLT)*

## Loss

Job said: *"You snatch me up and drive me before the wind; you toss me about in the storm."* Job 30:22

### Job's response to the storm of loss:

Job said: *"Though he slay me, yet will I hope in him; I will surely defend my ways to his face."* Job 13:15

### What God says to us in the storm loss:

*Then the LORD answered Job out of the storm. He said: "Who is this that darkens my counsel with words without knowledge? Brace yourself like a man; I will question you, and you shall answer me."* Job 38:1-3

### 1. Let me be \_\_\_\_\_

God: *"Who has a claim against me that I must pay? Everything under heaven belongs to me."* Job 41:11

### God is not obligated to \_\_\_\_\_ himself to us.

*The LORD said to Job: "Will the one who contends with the Almighty correct him? Let him who accuses God answer him!"* Job 40:1-2

### Ultimately, \_\_\_\_\_ is better than \_\_\_\_\_

Job said: *"The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away; may the name of the LORD be praised."* Job 1:21b

You can praise God:

- That he is a good and loving God – Job 10:12
- That he is all-powerful – Job 37:5, 23



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- That he notices every detail of life – Job 23:10, 31:4
- That he is in ultimate control – Job 41:11
- That he will ultimately save me – Job 19:25-26

**Ask yourself: Am I worshipping  
the \_\_\_\_\_ or the \_\_\_\_\_ ?**

Job said: *“Shall we accept good from God, and not trouble?”*  
Job 2:10

**2. You can’t always fix \_\_\_\_\_**

**Pain and difficulty are realities of life, but  
are not always the result of \_\_\_\_\_  
or a lack of \_\_\_\_\_.**

*The LORD... said to Eliphaz the Temanite, “I am angry with you and your two friends, because you have not spoken of me what is right, as my servant Job has.”* Job 42:7

What did they say that wasn’t right?

Bildad: *“When your children sinned against him, he gave them over to the penalty of their sin.”* Job 8:4

Zophar: *“If you put away the sin that is in your hand and allow no evil to dwell in your tent... Life will be brighter than noonday, and darkness will become like morning.”* Job 11:14, 17

**3. I have \_\_\_\_\_  
in store for you!**

Job said: *“I know that my Redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand upon the earth. And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh I will see God; I myself will see him with my own eyes— myself, and not another. How my heart yearns within me!”* Job 19:25-27

*After Job had prayed for his friends, the LORD made him prosperous again and gave him twice as much as he had before... The LORD blessed the latter part of Job’s life more than the first.* Job 42:10,12

*For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all.* 2 Corinthians 4:17

**4. \_\_\_\_\_ me**

**Trust is a \_\_\_\_\_ I make.**

Job: *“Though He slay me, yet will I trust in Him.”* Job 13:15a (KJV)

**Daily Meditations**

Spend some time each day reading God’s Word and meditating on Sunday’s topic...

**This week’s memory verse:**

*“I know that my Redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand upon the earth.”* Job 19:25

**Monday**

Please read Job 1:9-11. What do you think is the answer to the question posed by Satan to God: Is it possible to love God for God’s sake, and not merely for the benefits? Describe an experience when you were tempted to doubt God’s goodness: What questions did you ask? How were they similar to or different from the Job’s?

*Bring your questions to God today. Thank him for his power!*

**Tuesday**

Each of Job’s three friends makes a speech with Job responding—a cycle that gets repeated three times in the book. The problem—his friends do not give the best advice! Please read Job 22.

**Wrong—but familiar—answers from Job’s friends:**

- **This happened because you sinned.**

*“Who, being innocent, has ever perished?”* (Eliphaz) Job 4:7

- **If you just have faith, you’ll be healed.**

*“If you look to God and plead... and are pure & upright, he’ll restore you.”* Job 8:6

- **This is just a lesson.**

*“Blessed is the man God corrects, so do not despise the discipline of the Almighty.”* (Eliphaz) Job 5:17

- **If you live right, you’ll be prosperous.**

*“Submit to God and be at peace with him; in this way prosperity will come to you.”* (Eliphaz) Job 22:21

- **If you just read the Bible, you’ll be fine.**

*“Are God’s consolations not enough for you?”* (Eliphaz) Job 15:11  
God condemns Job’s friends later for speaking “falsehoods”. How is their advice false? Please read Job 42:11 for a good example of how to comfort! What do you learn from these three people about how to be—and *not* to be—a friend to someone in pain?

*Ask God to help you see the needs of your friends—and wise ways to meet those needs.*