

LIFE GROUP SERMON SUMMARY QUESTIONS

Job Series

These questions are for the **January 13, 2019** sermon, "The Give and the Take" Please read the sermon passage (Job 1:13-22) together out loud.

Sermon Outline

AS WE CONSIDER THE TENSION BETWEEN GOD AND SUFFERING, NOTE . . .

1. The unexpected losses we experience in life (13-19)
 - a. Job's business was destroyed, and at the same moment he learned
 - b. Job's material possessions/wealth was destroyed, and at the same moment he learned
 - c. Job's sons and daughters had been killed
 - d. Notes to consider when we face unexpected loss . . .
 - i. Job did not immediately blame God or acknowledge Satan in this loss.
 - ii. God is the owner of every blessing, and can give them and take them.
 - iii. Our integrity (1:1) may be tested for the glory of God.
2. The understanding perspective we need in life (20-22)
 - a. Job "arose" and "fell" on his face in worship.
 - i. When every blessing is gone, yet the grace of God remains.
 - ii. God may remove every blessing, but he will never remove the grace.
 - b. The wise griever maintains perspective, even in the darkest moments:
 - i. Look back on God's grace ("Naked I came . . ." into this world)
 - ii. Look ahead to God's grace ("Naked shall I return . . ." to the earth)
 - iii. "I still have everything I came into this world with."
 - c. Job continues his integrity (obedience) even through seeming desertion.

Life Group Discussion Questions

1. Based on #1, above: It is crucial that we are people of integrity and growing faith BEFORE the day of testing (Job 1:1). In your best days, how have you been "upright"? How have you "feared the LORD"? How are you "turning away from evil"? What is God's evaluation of your character?
2. Based on #1, above: Though Job is not perfect, this passage clearly teaches that none of this calamity fell upon Job because of past sin (retribution/punishment) or current sin (consequences). There is no correlation between bad behavior and bad circumstances in this text. What can you learn from this principle? Might God be removing blessings from your life just to prove your integrity and his faithfulness?
3. Based on #1, above: Satan believes that people follow God because of "what they have" from God, so that is what he attacks. He cannot attack "who you are" in Christ. Identify some differences between "who you are" in Christ" and "what you have."
4. Based on #2, above: Job "arose" and "fell on his face in worship." This means he ascribed worth to God even while the darkness seems to overtake him. Identify two or three ways you will worship the LORD even if he removes blessings.
5. Based on #2, above: Are you a wise worshiper. or unprepared? When faced with unexpected loss, how long does it take you to look back at God's grace, and forward to God's grace, and choose to worship him? What does that process look like for you?