

## LIFE GROUP SERMON SUMMARY QUESTIONS

## *Job Series*

These questions are for the **January 27, 2019** sermon, "In the Day of Great Suffering" Please read the sermon passage (Job 2:1-13) together out loud.

### Sermon Outline

IN THE DAY OF INCREASED SUFFERING, NOTE . . .

1. The LORD is sovereign over the testing of His servants. (1-6)
  - a. The LORD commands all the powers in the universe that influence Job's life.
    - i. Start here: "God is completely in charge of my world today. No exceptions."
    - ii. Satan: when the blessings fade, God's servants will "curse you to your face."
  - b. The LORD is intimately involved/aware with his servants and their suffering.
    - i. He has seen their faithfulness, and calls us His own ("my servant Job").
    - ii. The timing of suffering: it is in the Lord's hands and always temporary.
  - c. As we "hold to our integrity" and "still hold to our integrity,"
    - i. Our grip gets stronger, not weaker.
    - ii. We live life, "coram Deo," "in the face of God." We bless God to his face.
2. The LORD's servants endures the test with strength and integrity. (7-10; James 5:11)
  - a. The testing of our body/flesh is unique, because it reveals what we live to preserve.
  - b. Satan believes we lack the capacity to truly love others, but that we all preserve self.
  - c. "Coram Deo" living: ready to endure bad counsel from those closest to us (Job's wife).
3. The arrival of counselors. (11-13)
  - a. Eliphaz, one of the counselors, comes from Teman, a leading city in worldly wisdom.
  - b. As suffering increases, be alert for well-meaning "leading worldly wisdom" counselors.

### Life Group Discussion Questions

1. Based on #1, above: How does it impact you to consider that "God is completely sovereign over" your day today, that Satan must run his every plan before the LORD, and that your personal, covenant-keeping God stays super-close to his suffering servants? Do you think God may be using your faithfulness to make a statement to Satan?
2. Based on #1, above: At the end of a season of suffering, God announces that our "grip" on our integrity (coram Deo) strengthens; it does not weaken. Has God ever proven this to you? After seasons "in the valley," has God brought you to streams of mercy and even to new spiritual victories? Tell us about this.
3. Based on #2, above: The testing of our bodies is unique and so personal. Job wouldn't want us to simply talk about the pain, but he would love it if we talk God. His conclusion: "God gives good, and God gives" what we view to be "evil" or bad. How does Job's faithfulness in the "evil" encourage you? How might your faithfulness in the "evil" encourage those around you?
4. Based on #2, above: Job got bad advice from his wife. We said that daily faithfulness in the "days of relative blessing" (see Job 1:1-5) prepares our minds to be strong against bad counsel in our days of increased suffering. How have you experienced this in your life? Have you ever opened your mouth too soon in someone's pain? What do you learn?