

LIFE GROUP SERMON SUMMARY QUESTIONS

Job Series

These questions are for the **March 31, 2019** sermon, "Shall he live again?" Please read the sermon passage (Job 14:1-17) together out loud.

Sermon Outline

AS WE PONDER THE BREVITY OF LIFE IN RELATION TO THE RESURRECTED BODY, NOTE . . .

1. The imagery we need to consider (1-6)
 - a. Consider the great distress that Job has endured. He tries to describe it . . .
 - i. His life is "like" a flower, having bloomed briefly, but now withered (2)
 - ii. His life is "like" a shadow, fleeting to full darkness (2)
 - iii. His life is "like" a hired hand; he asks to briefly enjoy his days in peace (6)
 - b. Job is fixated on God's sovereignty over his life.
 - i. God sees everything, and brings each one into judgment (3)
 - ii. God determines our every day, numbers our months and appoints limits (5)
2. The hope we need to possess (7-12)
 - a. Job learns of God's ways from God's creation. In this case, the tree.
 - i. A tree cut down "will sprout again" (7)
 1. With God, there is reason to wait, to endure and to hope.
 2. God is at work for a beautiful future according to his Word.
 - ii. A man's body is cut down and will not rise again (10)
 - b. Those who grieve swing widely between hope and hopelessness.
 - c. Feel the weight, the finality of death, and let it push you to hope in God.
3. The question we need to answer (13-17)
 - a. Job is certain the he will "sprout again" like the fallen tree.
 - b. Consider the hope of John 11:25-26
 - c. Jesus himself is the resurrection and the life. Do you believe this?

Life Group Discussion Questions

1. Based on #1, above: As Job describes his grief, he uses similes and comparisons: flowers, shadows and part-time employees. Which of these similes is helpful to you? To what would you compare your suffering?
2. Based on #1, above: While God's sovereignty is mysterious because we do not all of his purposes, yet it is comforting because God sets limits. How does the reality of God's sovereignty bring comfort and endurance to you even while you are still suffering?
3. Based on #2, above: While we suffer we sometimes become fixated upon the end, finality and the seeming power of death, but when we consider God and his creation, we are reminded of his life-giving strength, and ability to bring new life from stumps. Right now, are you focused on death (and endings and shadows)? Or the promise of certain sprouting and new life? Discuss.
4. Based on #3, above: With the weight of his sorrow fresh and the counsel of his friends missing the mark, yet Job is certain that the future would be dominated by "renewal" (14) and "new sprouting." Our ultimate hope comes from Jesus Christ, the "stump" of Jesse. From him comes resurrection and life. Describe your conviction and belief in Jesus. John 11:25-26.