

Characters - JOB

Matt VanCleave

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REVIEW LAST WEEK'S NEXT STEPS

What, if any, next step did you commit to last week, how did it go?

- "I love you God, except..." What is your except?
- I will follow wisdom rather than desire.
- I will test desire by having the end in mind.
- I will calmly look at every option, consider every consequence, and choose what is best.
- I will take a stand and devote my life to God, and learn to deal with unfulfilled desire.
- I will ask the wise questions: What is good here? What would love do? What is best?

THIS WEEK'S SERMON RECAP

The Book of Job follows the course of resolution for Job after a series of devastating events in his life. Although Job's friends try to give him the answers to why he was suffering, it takes the many challenging questions of God to help Job realize that God is endlessly good, uncontrollably generous, irrationally loving, and he gives for no reason at all, just because it's his nature.

Job listens to God, humbles himself, and is restored to full relationship with God.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Pastor Matt describes the land of Uz (facing major life problems) as a place we've all been in at some point in our lives. What experience have you had in this "land of Uz"?

2. Pastor Matt tells Job's story as being a play with two stages. One is a heavenly stage and the second is an earthly stage. When going through a difficult or challenging season of life, are you aware of both vantage points or just the earthly one you're experiencing?

8. From Job chapters 3 to 37 Job and his friends argue about why this happened to him. They argue over what Pastor Matt calls the “Doctrine of Retribution” which is the concept of goodness resulting in prosperity and blessing while wickedness results in suffering. What do you think about this doctrine?

9. Have you ever heard well-meaning Christians say things like, “If you just had enough faith you’d be healed.” Or “You need to thank God for the pain you’re in because it’s glorifying him.” Or “Your suffering is because of some sin you’ve committed, and you need to figure out what it is and repent”??? If so, how did you feel or respond?

10. Read Luke 13:1-5 How does Jesus address this Doctrine of Retribution?

11. Read Job 19:6-10 and also Job 19:25-27 Job is conflicted about his troubles and waivers all over the place. Have you ever experienced this?

12. Job 38:1 says, “Then the Lord answered Job out of the storm and says, ‘Who is this that darkens my counsel with words without knowledge?’” Then God speaks about His

power, love and His creation but never really answers Job's questions about why this happened to him. What do you think God wants us to learn from this?

13. Read Job 42:5-7 What is the moral of the story of Job?

NEXT STEPS FOR THIS WEEK (COMMIT TO GROW)

- I will persevere in suffering.
- I will trust the goodness and generosity of God.
- I will study the book of Job for further understanding.
- I will join a small group and develop supportive friendships.

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES

- Job 1:1
- Job 1:6-12
- Job 1:20-22
- Job 2:4-13
- Job 3:1
- Job 3:3-4
- Job 3:8
- Job 3:11
- Job 4:1-3
- Job 4:7-8
- Job 4:12
- Job 8:1-4
- Job 11:13-15
- Job 12:1-3
- Luke 13:4-5
- Job 19:5-11
- Job 19:25-27
- Job 23:1-4
- Job 38:1-7
- Job 38:25-27
- Job 39:13-18

- Job 42:5-7
- Job 42:12-15

Prayer Request(s)
