

# The Suffering of Job

**Bible Story Focus:** The Suffering of Job- Job

**Memory Verse:** "...all things have been created through him and for him" Colossians 1:16b

**Main Point:** God made everything.

**Christ Connection:** Jesus always obeyed God, but He suffered to rescue us.

## Leader Notes:

### Context

Why would we hear the story of Job while studying stories from Genesis? Most biblical authorities believe, based on subject matter and language, that Job was a contemporary to the patriarchs. Job fits chronologically into this period in history.

Job was a wealthy man who loved God. At the beginning of the book, God allows Satan to test Job's faithfulness. Job lost everything, and he asked God why these things were happening. God answered Job, and His response reveals that God alone is all-powerful, sovereign, and good.

"Have you ever in your life commanded the morning or assigned the dawn its place?" (Job 38:12). God has. He is all-powerful.

"Does the eagle soar at your command?" (Job 39:27). It does at God's. He is sovereign. "Who provides the raven's food when its young cry out to God?" (Job 38:41). God provides. He is good.

While the Book of Job speaks volumes to the problem of human suffering, it is also an important picture of how a suffering person should relate to God. Throughout all of Job's suffering, Job never turned away from God. Job didn't understand his suffering, but he understood who God is. Job's suffering ultimately brought him closer to God.

Job reminds us that following Jesus is worth it. God is good, present, and in control. We can trust Him when we don't understand the pain we have to endure. At the cross, God used the ultimate pain to bring about the ultimate good: our future and final salvation from sin.

Before you teach, pray that the Holy Spirit would help kids understand God's truth. Point kids to the Suffering Servant, Jesus, who was truly innocent yet suffered greatly so that we could be brought closer to God in both our suffering and our joy.

### Today's Passage

<sup>5</sup> Now the whole world had one language and a common speech. <sup>2</sup> As people moved eastward, they found a plain in Shinar and settled there.

<sup>3</sup> They said to each other, "Come, let's make bricks and bake them thoroughly." They used brick instead of stone, and tar for mortar. <sup>4</sup> Then they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city, with a tower that reaches to the heavens, so that we may make a name for ourselves; otherwise we will be scattered over the face of the whole earth."

<sup>5</sup> But the Lord came down to see the city and the tower the people were building. <sup>6</sup> The Lord said, "If as one people speaking the same language they have begun to do this, then nothing they plan to do will be impossible for them. <sup>7</sup> Come, let us go down and confuse their language so they will not understand each other."

<sup>8</sup> So the Lord scattered them from there over all the earth, and they stopped building the city. <sup>9</sup> That is why it was called Babel—because there the Lord confused the language of the whole world. From there the Lord scattered them over the face of the whole earth. Genesis 11:5-9

### Today's Takeaways

- Job was tested by Satan. Lost everything. But, in all of his suffering, He did not sin.
- BL: Job learned that God is all-powerful, sovereign, and good
- When we face suffering, we can hope in God.
- Jesus suffered so that we can trust in Him and have hope even when life is hard.

## Worship & Story Time

Gather children on a rug or in a specific area of the classroom to tell the story. Some kids (especially the younger ones) may wander. That's okay. They're still listening and learning!

**Worship: Engage kids' hearts through dynamic and interactive worship in a Large Group setting.**

**What you Need:** Worship DVD (from your campus leader), DVD player and TV

**What You Do:**

- Choose one song to sing with the kids from the worship DVD.

- Ask kids to follow along with the worship leader on the screen.

**What You Say:**

“Great job praising God for who He is. That is what we do when we worship God in song and with our lives. Now let’s see what we are going to learn from the Bible today.”

**What You Do: Introduce the story**

A man named Job loved God. One sad day, Job lost all of his sheep, camels, and donkeys. He lost everything—even his 10 children! Then Job got sick with sore spots all over his body. But Job still loved God. Job’s friends said, “Maybe God is mad at you. That is why bad things happened.” But that was not true. Job said, “I wish someone would talk to God for me.” God spoke to Job in a whirlwind. God said, “Were you there when I made everything? Can you understand My plan?” God showed Job that He takes care of everything He made. Job said, “Your plan is good and right. Nothing can stop Your plan!” Later, God gave Job many good gifts and more children. Job lived a long, happy life.

**PLAY BIBLE STORY VIDEO**

Check diapers and serve snack.

**Activities**

Depending on the size of your group, you may lead each activity two or three times. Not every child may want to participate in the activities. That’s okay.

**1. Fix Job’s Sores**

**What you need:** Job Activity page (laminated), red dry erase markers, tissues

**What you do:**

- Place the sealed Job images on a table with dry erase markers.
- Invite kids to use the markers to draw sores on Job’s body.
- Then they may erase the sores to represent God’s healing Job.

**What you SAY:** Job became sick with bad sores all over his body. Later God healed Job. **Job learned that God is always good.** Job’s story reminds us of Jesus. Jesus is the only Person who never sinned, but He suffered to take the punishment for our sin. Jesus comforts us when we suffer, and we can trust Him.

**2. Practice signing the Memory Verse**

**What you need:** Memory Verse Poster

**What You Do:**

- Show the poster to the kids
- As you say the words point to them on the poster

- Create simple hand motions to teach toddlers the memory verse. Sample hand motions include "All things [*sweeping one palm in an arc*] have been created [*striking fists together*] through him [*pointing to the sky*] and for him [*pointing to the sky*]." Repeat several times.

**What You Say:** Our Bible verse tells us that **God made everything**. God made the world because He is good.

**Pray and Dismiss:**

**What You need:** coloring page, crayons

**What You Do:**

- Kids can color the coloring page while they wait for parents or you can send the paper home to do there.
- Pray- "God thank you for creating everything and making it good. Thank you for your promises. Help us to turn to you when we sin and ask for forgiveness"

**What You Say:** Tell parents something that their child enjoyed doing or did well during the session. Send home the coloring page.