

August  
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# Seeking Answers

## The Book of Job

### A Family Study from Today in the Word

This Family Study is a companion to the *Today in the Word* devotional. The whole family can learn from God's Word together. In each of the four lessons, you will:



#### Read

Read a passage  
in the Bible



#### Understand

Understand the biblical  
text in a deeper way



#### Imagine

Imagine the lesson  
with hands-on activities

### About The Book of Job

The message of the Old Testament book of Job isn't easy, but it is very important: Why does God allow bad things to happen? Job was a faithful and righteous man of God who lost everything after being tested by Satan. Job's friends attempted to comfort him, but they also gave him some bad advice. God responded to Job, reminding him of His power and authority. Through the book of Job, we learn that God's ways are higher than our ways. We can trust that no matter what happens, God cares for us, and He is always in control.



This *Today in the Word* family study was written by Moody Bible Institute students Haylee Grindal, Ashleigh Hildebrandt, and Abigail Peterson under the direction of Elizabeth Smith, Program Head and Associate Professor of Moody's Children and Family Ministry program. Please visit [moody.edu/academics/programs/children-family-ministry](https://moody.edu/academics/programs/children-family-ministry) for more information.

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# 10 Things to Know

## About the Book of Job

1

The name Job is pronounced *joe-b* and means “the persecuted one” in Hebrew.

2

Job is from the land of Uz (Job 1:1).

3

Experts of the Bible consider the book of Job the oldest book of the Bible.

4

Job’s wealth was measured by the number of livestock he owned (Job 1:3).

5

Job lost all ten of his children during Satan’s first testing (Job 1:18–19).

6

Job’s friends were named Eliphaz, Bildad, and Zophar (Job 2:11).

7

The book of Job has the longest speech given by God in the Bible (Job 38–41).

8

By the end, Job repented of his sins and God restored to him twice the wealth he had before (Job 42:10).

9

Job was 140 years old when he died (Job 42:16).

10

Even though God allowed very bad things to happen to Job, He was still in control (Job 42:2).

# How Job Lost Everything

## Memory Verse

*The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away;  
may the name of the Lord be praised.—Job 1:21*



## Read Job 1:1-22

One day in heaven, some angels came to see the Lord; Satan came along. God pointed to Job, a servant of His who was righteous and blameless. Satan, suspicious of how faithful Job was, wanted to test him. Would Job still love God if he went through hard times? In just one day, Job lost everything: his livestock, his servants, and his children. But even after losing so much, Job remained faithful to God.



## Understand

1. Read Job 1:1. What do we learn about Job?
2. Read Job 1:12. What did God say Satan was not allowed to do?
3. When Satan tested Job, what did Job lose?
4. How would you feel if you lost everything like Job did?
5. How did Job respond after losing everything?



## Imagine

Let's teach your children about Job's faithfulness! Have your kids stand at the center of the room, facing one direction. Direct them to focus on one spot on the wall. No matter what happens, they should keep their eyes fixed on that object. Your job is to distract them. Start loudly singing, banging a pan with a spoon, jumping around, dancing, or anything else to try and get their attention. When you are done, talk to them about how hard it was to stay focused. In our story, even when a lot of hard things happened to him, Job remained faithful to God. Read the memory verse together.



## Prayer

*As a family, pray that God will help your family stay focused  
and faithful to Him, even through hard or confusing times.*

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# Job Talks to His Friends

## Memory Verse

*The righteous choose their friends carefully,  
but the way of the wicked leads them astray.—Proverbs 12:26*



## Read Job 4:7-9; Job 8:20; Job 11:14-17

Job was very sad. He even wondered if God had forgotten about him. Job listened to his friends, but they didn't always give him good advice. Job's friend told him that if he had done good things in his life, nothing bad would have happened to him. He said that God wouldn't have done this to Job if he was a good person. Still, Job never blamed God. Instead, he turned to God with the questions he had.



## Understand

1. What were the names of Job's three friends?
2. Why did they think God allowed Job to suffer?
3. What did Job's friends get wrong? What did they get right?
4. Who should we turn to when we have questions?
5. Why is it not always good to trust our friends for answers?



## Imagine

Let's teach your kids about good versus bad advice! Begin by going outside to create chalk art on the driveway or sidewalk. Have your children spread out and write the word "friend" in big, bold letters. They can color and decorate around the word. As you admire their art, explain that friends are a gift from God. However, now have them look at their hands. What do you see? The chalk dust all over their hands is like the friends we have in our life. Their behavior and ideas tend to rub off on you. This can be good or bad. Help your kids understand why it is important to choose their friends wisely.



## Prayer

*As a family, pray that God will help your children find good and godly friends.  
Pray that you too will be the kind of friend who is with someone  
when they are having troubles and will point them to Jesus.*

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# Job Asks God Hard Questions

## Memory Verse

*But where can wisdom be found?  
Where does understanding dwell?—Job 28:12*



## Read Job 28:20–28

After talking with his friends, Job still didn't have good answers to why he was suffering. He believed God is good and fair, but he did not understand why bad things had happened to him. Finally, he took these questions to God. When we have big, hard questions, we too can take them to God! God wants us to be honest with Him, even when we are hurting, confused, or scared.



## Understand

1. Why did Job have hard questions?
2. How do you think Job was feeling?
3. To whom did he ask his questions?
4. Read Job 28:23. Who alone has understanding?
5. What does this passage teach us about who God is?
6. Have you ever had hard questions? How can you ask God?



## Imagine

Let's learn the importance of seeing the big picture. Gather some coloring supplies and paper and have everyone draw a picture. Spread out so you can't see what the others are drawing. When you are finished, turn it over. The parent should choose one person and give them a straw. They should close one eye and look at one of the pictures, but only through the straw. Try to guess what the drawing is. Finally open your eyes and see the picture. Explain that it's hard to understand the big picture when we can't see all of it. Job did not understand why bad things in his life happened, but he asked God for help. We can ask God hard questions when we don't understand the big picture, and we are scared or hurting.



## Prayer

*Take turns sharing something hard from your day or week.  
Pray together about those hard things asking God for His help and guidance.*

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# We Can Always Trust God

## Memory Verse

*I know that you can do all things.—Job 42:2*



## Read Job 38:1-18; 42:1-17

After Job asked God many questions, God responded. He explained that He is the Creator of everything and has His eyes on all things. Job and his friends were not able to understand how everything in the world works, but God does! God is wise and good and is over everything. We can trust in God's wisdom, even when we do not understand it ourselves. Job wasn't always right, but he came to God with his questions. We too should also trust God and come to Him with our questions.



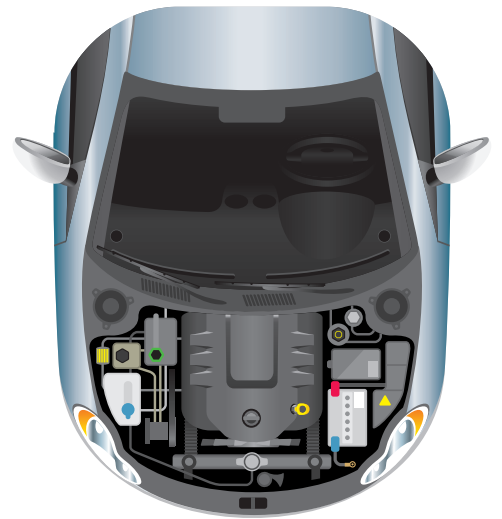
## Understand

1. Read Job 38:2–11. What did God ask Job? Why do you think that is important?
2. What happened after Job brought his questions to God?
3. What answer did God give Job?
4. Why is it hard for us to understand how the whole world works?
5. Why can we trust in God's wisdom and goodness when there are things we do not understand?



## Imagine

Parents, let's teach your children about God's plan! Parents, choose a complex object or machine in your home (car engine, oven, computer, etc.). Have your children watch as you examine it (open the hood, for example). Ask them: Who can explain how it runs? We may not know the details, but we trust that when we put the key in the engine and start the car, it will run. If it breaks, we often cannot fix it. We must go to someone who knows much more about it than we do. We also do not understand how the world works. When something hard happens, we should go to the One who created the world and is much wiser than us. We can trust in God's wisdom.



## Prayer

*As a family pray together to thank God for who He is and for all He has given us. Thank Him that His wisdom is much greater than our own, and ask Him to help guide our ways.*

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