

Job Is Blessed

Job 42:1-17

MEMORY VERSE

JOB 42:2

“I know that You can do everything, and that no purpose of Yours can be withheld from You.”

WHAT YOU WILL NEED:

A blindfold and a wad of paper for each child in your class.

Two different colors of cord (vinyl, leather, etc.) approximately 8” long for each child.

Nine empty chairs and red and blue construction paper.

ATTENTION GETTER!

Shepherd Game

You will need a blindfold and a wad of paper for each child in your class. Choose one person to be the shepherd. Have them be blindfolded. The sheep are the wads of paper, which should be placed on the floor around the wolves’ feet. All of the other children in the class will be the wolves. They should stand in a circle around the shepherd and his sheep. One at a time the wolves will try to sneak up and capture a sheep (wad of paper from the floor).

As the shepherd hears noises they can try to tag the child who is trying to get a wad of paper. That wolf when tagged will be out the rest of the game. The game is over when all of the wolves are tagged or all of the sheep are captured. After you have played once you will find that it was very difficult for the shepherd to tag the wolves with the blindfold on.

Next take the blindfold off of the shepherd, gather the sheep and play again. This time the shepherd gets to watch everything. Play until all of the children are tagged or the sheep captured. Gather the class together and ask them which time was it easier to be a shepherd, while blindfolded or with their sight restored? In our story today we will see that God restores everything back to Job that he lost and more. Let's take a look and see what happened.

LESSON TIME!

It is good of the Lord to give us this last chapter of Job. Otherwise we would have been left with a lot of unanswered questions about Job's suffering. As we will see, God restores Job's health, family, and fortune after letting Satan take it away. **God rewards faithfulness.**

Job has endured so much through these chapters, hasn't he? He's lying in dust, his body full of sores, his mind full of anguish and pain. He's grieving for his lost children. His friends have hurt him even more with their words. Some of the things they were saying were true and other things were not. There was no comfort there for Job. God was quiet for a long time, making the trial even more difficult for Job.

Then God Himself spoke directly to Job. He hadn't forgotten about Job. He still loved him. God cleared things up a bit for Job. We learned how God is truly powerful and all knowing. We learned He has the "big picture," when we often don't understand everything that is happening around us. We saw that He loved Job, and He also tested Job. Job was not meant to know the explanation of his trial. If Job HAD known, there would have been no place for faith. But in today's lesson we will see how **God rewards faithfulness.**

JOB 42:1-6

Then Job answered the LORD and said:

"I know that You can do everything, And that no purpose of Yours can be withheld from You.

You asked, 'Who is this who hides counsel without knowledge?' Therefore I have uttered what I did not understand, Things too wonderful for me, which I did not know.

Listen, please, and let me speak; You said, 'I will question you, and you shall answer Me.'

"I have heard of You by the hearing of the ear, But now my eye sees You.

Therefore I abhor myself, And repent in dust and ashes."

We see a humble Job now. God revealed Himself to Job and Job realized how little he actually knew of God.

Job had complained before that God's plans could not be stopped and that seemed to make him unhappy. I don't think he liked the plan much! But now, he came to understand that God's will cannot be stopped and he was relieved. He probably learned a few lessons in being quiet before the Lord too! He learned God does know best!

Job had quite a spiritual experience in the presence of God. Before, he had been pretty sure of his own words, and his own wisdom. Now he is content just to worship and just to rest in the wisdom that God is sovereign. **God rewards faithfulness.**

We see here that Job repents of his sin. When we are humbled we always need to repent. We will always find forgiveness and blessing when we repent and turn from our ways and towards the Lord. Sometimes when the Lord breaks us we are in a much better place to serve Him. We see that Job is now broken before the Lord.

JOB 42:7-9

And so it was, after the LORD had spoken these words to Job, that the LORD said to Eliphaz the Temanite, "My wrath is aroused against you and your two friends, for you have not spoken of Me what is right, as My servant Job has.

"Now therefore, take for yourselves seven bulls and seven rams, go to My servant Job, and offer up for yourselves a burnt offering; and My servant Job shall pray for you. For I will accept him, lest I deal with you according to your folly; because you have not spoken of Me what is right, as My servant Job has."

So Eliphaz the Temanite and Bildad the Shuhite and Zophar the Naamathite went and did as the LORD commanded them; for the LORD had accepted Job.

God refers to Job as “my servant” four times in two verses. He is commending Job for the things that he spoke. But Job’s three friends didn’t speak the truth about God. Do you think that it is important to think about what we say about God to others? It sure seems to be important to God here. We need to be careful about what we say and how we represent God to others. **God rewards faithfulness.**

The three friends' speeches may have sounded really nice and even spiritual with some truth mixed in with it, yet it was Job that God was pleased with. There are many people today who might sound spiritual and speak some very nice things, even in the name of God, but we need to be careful and discerning in everything that we hear.

God saw sincerity and honesty in Job that was not there with the others. Did you notice whom God didn't mention? It was Elihu whom we studied about last week. Scholars say it could be because Elihu did not go along with the other three in saying that suffering implies sin. We really are not sure.

Because of God's displeasure, He asks them to sacrifice seven bulls and seven rams. There are a couple things that are interesting here (especially for the older children, the younger children may not be able to grasp the concepts).

1. God commanded this sacrifice of the three friends before the law was ever given to Moses (many scholars put Job living around the time of Abraham). Sacrifices even appear in the Old Testament before this (Cain and Abel, Noah, Abraham), so it is one more example of a sacrifice (blood being shed) being needed to cover our sins and weaknesses. This was a common practice even before the Lord commanded it through Moses and the giving of the law.
2. The significance of bulls and rams is interesting. We learn from Leviticus 1-6, when the sacrificial system was explained to Moses, that bulls were the most expensive animals used. Rams were always to be the animal used by leader in the sin offering. Only rams were used for the trespass offering.

God covered all the bases with that one offering of Job's three friends. Just like the One offering which came later, His own Son, Jesus.

Bracelets of Blessings

You will need two different colors of cord (vinyl, leather, etc.) approximately 8” long for each child. When God restored Job He blessed him greatly. God has also blessed us in many different ways. Can you think of some of the ways He has blessed you? We will be making Bracelets of Blessings to help remind us of all of the ways that God has blessed us.

Explain to the children that we will be tying knots in our two cords to make a Bracelet of Blessings. Each knot will represent a blessing in your life. When you are finished you can wear your bracelet to remind you of all your many blessings.

Place the two cords side by side. Ask a child to hold one end of both you cords. Begin tying knots in your bracelet. When you are done with as many knots as you like have someone help you to tie it around your wrist. The children will need to pair up to help one another with this bracelet. For younger children you can help them with the knots. Optional: Use beads between the knots to also represent different blessings.

JOB 42:10-17

And the LORD restored Job's losses when he prayed for his friends. Indeed the LORD gave Job twice as much as he had before.

Then all his brothers, all his sisters, and all those who had been his acquaintances before, came to him and ate food with him in his house; and they consoled him and comforted him for all the adversity that the LORD had brought upon him. Each one gave him a piece of silver and each a ring of gold.

Now the LORD blessed the latter days of Job more than his beginning; for he had fourteen thousand sheep, six thousand camels, one thousand yoke of oxen, and one thousand female donkeys.

He also had seven sons and three daughters.

And he called the name of the first Jemimah, the name of the second Keziah, and the name of the third Keren-Happuch.

In all the land were found no women so beautiful as the daughters of Job; and their father gave them an inheritance among their brothers.

After this Job lived one hundred and forty years, and saw his children and grandchildren for four generations.

So Job died, old and full of days.

Here we see not only a costly sacrifice being offered, but that prayer is required also. Have you ever thought your sin was okay or forgotten because you did a good deed after the bad one? Did you ever think that if you just put a little more money in the offering that God would be happy with you again?

It is a solemn thing to remember that our Lord knows we have messed up, and that He wants us to confess it to Him, to take it to Him in prayer and to ask Him for forgiveness. It is also important to note the Lord accepted Job's intercession for his friends. He will also accept our prayers and forgive us also when we do wrong and have a sorry heart.

Now we see the restoration of his health, his friendships, his property, and his children. Why did God write the names of the three daughters and not the sons? Maybe one reason is because the girls' names have special meanings. They mean "dove," "cassia"(perfume), and "beautifier" (horn of eye paint). Names in the Bible often give another message to the reader. God's Word is full of treasure, if we are willing to search for it. These names symbolize the beauty and glory of Job's restoration. **God rewards faithfulness.**

Not only do we see here that Job was faithful to God, but more importantly we see that God was faithful to Job. He never left him or forsook him. He did allow him to be tried with a very, very difficult time. God helped him through the trial, taught Job what He wanted him to learn and then greatly blessed him on the other side of the trial.

Maybe you are going through a really rough time right now. Understand that God loves you and will help you. He will also get you through to the other side no matter what. He will also reward your faithfulness. Do not lose heart. God sees the big picture and He knows our hearts. He will never leave us or forsake us. Let's learn to trust the Lord.

Job-Tac-Toe

This game is a variation of tic-tac-toe. But this one is played with people instead of on a chalkboard. You will need nine empty chairs and red and blue construction paper. Arrange the nine chairs into a tic-tac-toe square. Form two teams. Ask the students questions from the day's lesson. Each correct answer allows the team that answered to place a student on the "board." Have that child sit in one of the chairs. Any completed line (vertical, horizontal, or diagonal) wins the game.

To help identify the teams use red or blue construction paper. This will help the class to better track which team is winning as well as planning for strategy.

PRAYER

Lead the children in a prayer of commitment to remain faithful to the Lord no matter what. If there are any children who have not yet responded to the gospel, give them opportunity to do so.