

Blessed

A Study of Job for the Suffering Saint

Session 6: Growth

By H. M. Coker

*“As an example of suffering and patience, brothers,
take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.
Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast.*

*You have heard of the steadfastness of Job,
and you have seen the purpose of the Lord,
how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.”*

James 5:10-11 (ESV)

Session 6: Growth

Session 6, Part 1:

Pray the Word: “He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say to the LORD, ‘My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust’” (Psalm 91:1-2).

Hear the Word: Last week you read Job chapters 3-26. This week we will focus on Job chapters 27-42. For the first three parts of this session, we will be familiarizing ourselves with this text. Once we have a good handle on the big picture, we will circle back and study the details of these chapters. Today we will begin with Job 27-31.

1. Review the “Outline of Job” at the end of this session.
2. Read or listen to Job chapters 27-31. As you read, underline key verses.
3. In the space below, summarize what you have read. I have provided my verse divisions, but feel free to use your own. The purpose of this assignment is not to “get the right answer,” but to familiarize yourself with the text.

- Job 27-31 _____
 - Job 27:1-6
 - Job 27:7-23
 - Job 28:1-28

Session 6, Part 2:

Pray the Word: “Behold, God is exalted in his power; who is a teacher like him? Who has prescribed for him his way, or who can say, ‘You have done wrong’? Remember to extol his work, of which men have sung. All mankind has looked on it; man beholds it from afar. Behold, God is great, and we know him not; the number of his years is unsearchable” (Job 36:22-26)

Hear the Word: Today we will focus on Job chapter 32-37, as we continue the broad strokes portion of this session.

1. Read or listen to Job chapters 32-37. As you read, underline key verses.
2. In the space below, summarize what you have read. I have provided my verse divisions, but feel free to use your own. Remember, the purpose of this assignment is not to “get the right answer,” but to familiarize yourself with the text.

- Job 32-37 _____
 - Job 32:1-33:7
 - Job 33:8-35:16
 - Job 36:1-16
 - Job 36:17-21
 - Job 36:22-37:24

Apply the Word: Our memory verse is Psalm 119:71. Write it in the space provided, take a picture of it with your phone, and read it every day until you can say it easily.

“It is good for me that I was afflicted, that I might learn your statutes.” Psalm 119:71

Session 6, Part 3:

Pray the Word: I am praying for you “that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen” (Ephesians 3:16-21).

Hear the Word: Today, we will focus on Job 38-42, as we finish building our big picture understanding of Job.

1. Read or listen to Job chapters 38-42. As you read, underline key verses.
2. In the space below, summarize what you have read. I have provided my verse divisions, but as before, feel free to use your own.

- Job 38-41 _____
 - Job 38:1-39:30
 - Job 40:1-5

- Job 40:6-41:34

- Job 42 _____

- Job 42:1-6

- Job 42:7-9

- Job 42:10-17

Apply the Word: It's time to add another song to our playlists. This song is very special to me and I am confident you will be blessed by it. Disclaimer: these artists are in no way affiliated with nor have they endorsed this study.

“O Lord, My Rock and My Redeemer”

Performed by: Hymns of Grace

Composer Nathan Stiff

2021, The Master's Seminary

Session 6, Part 4:

Pray the Word: Dear Father, Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of You! How unsearchable are Your judgements and how inscrutable Your ways! “For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been His counselor?” “Or who has given a gift to Him that He might be repaid?” For from You and through You and to You are all things. To You be the glory forever. Amen (Romans 11:33-36).

Hear the Word: You are doing so great! I'm so thankful to God that you are sticking with this. May you reap an abundant harvest. Now that we have a firm grasp of what this portion of Job contains, it's time to go back and fill in some of the fine lines. Today we will be focusing on Elihu and his discourse in chapters 32-37. Take your time. Don't get overwhelmed. Enjoy the Word! Bury God's precepts deep in your heart, so that you never forget them, for by them he has given us life (Psalm 119:93).

1. Who is introduced in Job chapter 32? (32:2)
2. What was Elihu feeling? Who was he feeling this towards and why? (32:2-5)
3. Why did Elihu wait to speak? (32:4,6-7,11)
4. Why does he choose to speak? (32:5,8-9,12,18-20)

11. Read Job 36:1-16. What is it that Elihu does in this passage? Write 36:3b in the space below.

12. Read Job 36:17-21. What does Elihu say to Job in this passage? Write Job 36:21 in the space below.

13. Read Job 36:22-37:24. What does Elihu do in this passage? Write Job 36:22a, 36:24a, 37:5b, 37:14b, and 37:23-24 in the space below.

Apply the Word: Elihu warns, “Take care; do not turn to iniquity, for this you have chosen rather than affliction” (Job 36:21). The LORD confirms that Job was arguing with God (Job 40:2), Job was finding fault with God (40:2), and Job was putting God in the wrong and condemning God in order that he [Job] may be in the right (Job 40:8). In suffering we are often vulnerable to the temptation to sin. We may even feel justified to sin because of the suffering we are experiencing, but Peter warns against this very thing. Peter wrote, “Servants, be subject to your masters with all respect, not only to the good and gentle but also to the unjust. For this is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God” (1 Peter 2:18-20). As with so much of Peter’s writing, this can easily be taken out of context. Do not let this passage be perverted to condemn you and rob you of the hope which is yours in Christ Jesus. But take it in context. When you are suffering, abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul (1 Peter 2:11a). Take Christ as your example (1 Peter 2:21). “He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed” (1 Peter 2:22-24).

Session 6, Part 5:

Pray the Word: Father God, make me worthy of your calling and fulfill every resolve for good and every work of faith by your power, so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in me, and I in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ. (2 Thessalonians 1:11-12)

Hear the Word: Today, we will complete two charts to help us make clear observations about Job, Job’s friends, and Elihu. Read the directions and complete each chart.

1. Contrast Job, Job’s friends’, and Elihu. What does each group focus on? What is the root of their discourse? What is their goal? I know this may feel a bit overwhelming, so I have included references to verses which I think summarize each group’s perspective—however, use these references only as a starting point. Study these sections for yourself and write only what you learn from Scripture.

Job	Job's Friends	Elihu
Job 32:2	Job 32:3	Job 34:12, 37:14,37:23-24

2. Observe the Lord’s response, or lack thereof, to Job, Job’s Friends, and Elihu. Once again, I have included references to guide you.

The Lord’s Response to Job	The Lord’s Response to Job’s Friends	The Lord’s Response to Elihu
Job 38:1-3 Job 40:2, 7-9	Job 42:7-8	

3. Bible scholars do not agree on the interpretation of Elihu’s answer. We have seen that the LORD rebukes Job and Job’s friends but does not rebuke Elihu. Growing up, if Mom and Dad sat all three of us kids down for a talk, it was a good thing if you were the one kid who didn’t get a direct address (for the record, I was never that kid). However, the LORD also never directly confirms Elihu. The Word of the Lord is perfect (Psalm 19:7). Everything we need to know is given to us in Scripture. No Scripture comes from someone’s own interpretation for no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit (2 Peter 1:20-21). Therefore, as we will continue to study the book of Job and move forward with the LORD’s own answer, ask the Holy Spirit to guide you into all truth (John 16:13). One final note from me: If a question is not answered in Scripture, the question does not need to be answered.

Apply the Word: Consider your prayers. In this season of suffering are you arguing with God (Job 40:2)? Do you find fault with God (40:2)? Do you put God in the wrong and condemn him that you may be in the right (Job 40:8)? Now consider the way you speak of God to others who are suffering. Do you speak of God what is right (Job 42:7)? “‘God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.’ Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you” (1 Peter 5:5b-6). Repent of that which you need to repent. Remember that true repentance involves turning *from* what is wrong *to* what is right. As we continue our study of the LORD’s response, we will see what we are to fix our focus on, but for now I leave you with this truth. When you are suffering do as Paul did: Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, the offspring of David. (2 Timothy 2:8-9a).

Session 6, Part 6:

Pray the Word: Now to him who is able to strengthen us according to the gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but has now been disclosed and through the prophetic writings has been made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith— to the only wise God be glory forevermore through Jesus Christ! Amen. (Romans 16:25-27)

Hear the Word: In Job 38-41 The LORD answers Job out of the whirlwind (Job 38:1).

1. What does God say to Job in 38:2? Write it in the space provided.

2. The LORD then tells Job, “Dress for action like a man; I will question you, and you make it known to me” (Job 38:3). In Job 38:5-39:30 the LORD questions Job with a long list of rhetorical questions, but first he gives Job the answer to those questions in Job 38:4. So what is the answer? According to Job 38:4, who laid the foundation of the earth?

Apply the Word: Reading this passage is humbling, as it should be. It takes the focus off of ourselves and places it rightly on the LORD. In Job 36:24 Elihu says, “Remember to extol his work, of which men have sung” and Job 37:14 says, “Stop and consider the wondrous works of God.” This call to consider God and remember to extol him in our season of suffering is a Biblical truth taught throughout Scripture. For example, the Psalmist wrote, “Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness” (Psalm 29:2). Ecclesiastes 7:13-14 says, “Consider the work of God: who can make straight what he has made crooked? In the day of prosperity be joyful, and in the day of adversity consider: God has made the one as well as the other, so that man may not find out anything that will be after him.” Psalm 103:1-2 says, “Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name! Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits.” Paul wrote, “Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, the offspring of David, as preached in my gospel, for which I am suffering, bound with chains as a criminal.” (2 Timothy 2:8-9a). In your suffering, right now, obey these verses. “Magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together!” (Psalm 34:3)

Session 6, Part 7:

Pray the Word: “Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name! Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits, who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy, who satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.” (Psalm 103:1-5)

Hear the Word: One day while attending a Bible study on the book of James, the class began discussing the life of Job. A sister-in-Christ shared how Job 42:1-9 shows God’s good purposes for Job’s suffering as “growth, repentance, and the sharpening effect on his friends” (M. Pressley, 2025; quoted and used with permission). What a wonderfully accurate summary of Job 42:1-9! Over the next few days we will observe Job 42:1-9 for ourselves, so we too can see God’s good purposes for us in suffering. We will begin by observing Job 42:1-6.

1. Read Job 42:1-6.
 - a. Who is speaking? (42:1)
 - b. Who is he speaking to? (42:1)

- c. How does Job open his prayer? (42:2)

- d. In Job 38:2 the LORD said to Job, “Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge?” In Job 42:3a Job references the Lord’s words” “Who is this that hides counsel without knowledge?” How does Job respond in Job 42:3b? What is Job acknowledging in this passage?

- e. Job 42:4 says, “Hear, and I will speak; I will question you, and you make it known to me.” In Job 42:4 Job is again referencing the Lord’s words to him, this time from Job 38:3 and 40:7. What is Job’s response in verse five? (42:5)

- f. Therefore, what action does Job take in verse 6? (42:6)

- g. According to Job 42:5-6, what two beautiful effects did suffering have on the life of Job?

Apply the Word: In what ways has your suffering helped you to know God better? In what ways has it made you more like Christ? Has God been using this season of suffering to reveal sin in your own life? If so, do not quench the Spirit (1 Thessalonians 5:19), but repent. Allow God to use this season for your good, to make you more like Christ (Romans 8:28-29).

Session 6, Part 8:

Pray the Word: “I know, O LORD, that your rules are righteous, and that in faithfulness you have afflicted me” (Psalm 119:75). “Before I was afflicted I went astray, but now I keep your word” (Psalm 119:67). “It is good for me that I was afflicted, that I might learn your statutes” (Psalm 119:71). “If your law had not been my delight, I would have perished in my affliction” (Psalm 119:92)

Hear the Word: In Job 42 we have been given two of God’s wonderful purposes for our suffering. First, suffering teaches us to know God. Second, suffering drives us to repentance and becoming more like Christ. I’m so excited to dive into the Word with you today and correlate what we have learned in Job 42 with the rest of Scripture. Read the following passages and answer the questions.

1. Psalm 119:71
“It is _____ for me that I was afflicted, that I might _____.”
2. Read 2 Corinthians 1:8-9. Paul says they were so “utterly burdened beyond our strength that we despaired of life itself. Indeed, we felt that we had received the sentence of death.” What purpose for this affliction was given in verse 9b?
3. Read 2 Corinthians 12:7-10. Paul suffered a thorn in the flesh, a messenger of Satan. What good purposes are given for this suffering?

Session 6, Part 9:

Pray the Word: “Blessed is the man whom you discipline, O LORD, and whom you teach out of your law, to give him rest from days of trouble” (Psalm 94:12-13a).

Hear the Word: When Job’s season of suffering included Job’s repentance were you surprised? Let’s learn more about the role of repentance in our suffering.

1. Psalm 119: 67

“Before I was afflicted I went _____, but now _____.”

1. Read Romans 8:28-29 and answer the questions.

- a. For whom is this promise given? (make sure you read the whole passage and catch all of it)

- b. For these, we know that all things work together for what?

- c. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be...

- d. Is there any greater good for a Christian than to be made like Christ?

- e. In order that...

2. We are going to continue our study of how God uses suffering for our good, to draw us to daily repentance, and make us more like Christ, by observing Hebrews 12:5-13. This passage is one that causes so much pain to many Christians, especially those who are suffering, because they don't understand it. They read "discipline" and "chastisement," but they think "God's wrath" and "condemnation." However, when understood in the context of Scripture this passage will be a flood of comfort and affirmation to you. Therefore, let's chew this passage slowly and thoroughly so we don't choke on it. Some of you started choking the minute I referred to Hebrews 12. If this is you, stop and pray. Remember Jesus said, "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light" (Matthew 11:28-30). Proceed without fear, dear heart, he is gentle.

a. First, read Hebrews 12:5-6 in a few different translations (such as ESV, KJV, and NASB95) and take note of what you learn.

b. Second, review the Greek words and definitions used in Hebrews 12:5-6.

Hebrews 12:5 "discipline" G3809, paideia: A nurturing instruction¹

Hebrews 12:5 "reproved" G1651, elegcho: To tell a fault¹

Hebrews 12:6 "disciplines" G3811, paideuo: To train up a child¹

Hebrews 12:6 "chastises" G3146, mastigoo: To scourge, literally or figuratively¹

c. Third, look up the following cross-references to make sure you understand Hebrews 12 in the context of Scripture.

i. Romans 5:8-9

¹ Daily Bible Apps. "KJV Bible with Strong's." Google Play Store, (2022). (accessed on 15 June 2026).

ii. 1 Thessalonians 1:9b-10

iii. 1 Thessalonians 5:9

iv. John 3:36

v. Romans 6:22

vi. 1 John 4:13-18

vii. Romans 7:24-8:2

viii. 1 Peter 2:24

d. Are believers any longer under the condemnation of sin and therefore the wrath of God? By whom have we been made righteous?

3. Read Hebrews 12:5-13.

a. For what purpose do we endure? (12:7a)

b. Whom does the Lord discipline? Is it only some of his children? (12:6, 7b, 8)

c. If you are left without discipline, what does this mean? (12:8a,c)

- d. Why does he discipline us? (12:9-10)

- e. Though painful for the moment, what does discipline yield? (12:11)

- f. To whom does it yield peaceful fruit of righteousness? (12:11)

- g. Therefore, what are we to do? (12:12-13a)

- h. So that what is lame may not be put out of joint but rather be... (12:13b)

Apply the Word: Being asked to observe Hebrews 12:5-13, a passage about God's discipline, when doing a study about suffering, may have made you uncomfortable or even angry. You may have cried, "I didn't cause this, I'm not being disciplined!" We equate the two as one in the same. However, this cause-and-effect interpretation of Hebrews 12:5-13 is at the very least incomplete. Let me explain:

Job Repenting:

Job was a blameless and upright man, who feared God and turned away from evil (Job 1:8). God allowed Job to suffer and in Job forty-two we find Job repenting. My flesh wants to cry out against this. Job *repenting* feels like Job *agreeing* with his three friends, but it isn't! Job 42:5-6 says, "I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear, but now my eye sees you; therefore I despise myself, and repent in dust and ashes." As a result of his suffering, Job gained a deeper understanding of who God is, and therefore, a deeper understanding of who he (Job) was, which led to repentance. The testing fires of suffering brought impurities to the surface, which required Job's repentance. God allowed Job to suffer, and God used Job's suffering to refine him of sin (Job 42:1-6).

We Are Blameless In Christ:

As believers, we are blameless before God (Colossians 1:22; Philippians 2:15) because we have Christ's righteousness (Ephesians 4:24, 2 Corinthians 5:21). We have been saved from the wrath of God and been justified by the blood of Christ (Romans 5:8-9). We no longer fear punishment because we have been perfected in his love (1 John 4:17-18). There is no longer any condemnation for us—we have been set free in Christ (Romans 8:1-2). “The Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom” (2 Corinthians 3:17).

We Are Being Sanctified:

We are already blameless (Colossians 1:22), but not yet sinless (Philippians 3:12). Therefore, we are now in a state of sanctification. My mother taught me that “sanctification is first positional and an act of God (Acts 26:18; 2 Thessalonians 2:13; 1 Corinthians 1:2). Then also progressive (John 17:17; Romans 6:19; 1 Thessalonians 4:3)” (S. Garrison, 2026, quoted and used with permission). We, with unveiled faces beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another (2 Corinthians 3:18). He works all things for our good, using even our suffering to conform us to the image of his Son (Romans 8:28-29). The fruit we now get leads to sanctification and its end, eternal life (Romans 6:22).

Discipline is a Refining Tool:

God’s discipline is a refining tool to remove sin and make us more like Christ. Hebrews 12:10b says, “He disciplines us for our good, that we may share his holiness” (Hebrews 12:10b). The discipline we encounter is not the punishment of wrath and judgment. Discipline in Hebrews 12:5-12 is a refining process: identifying areas where we don’t line up with Christ, being trained, yielding the fruit of righteousness, that we will not be put out of joint but rather be healed. To apply Hebrews 12 to your season of suffering is to acknowledge that God is using your circumstances to train you because you still sin and God has promised that having begun a good work in you he will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ (Philippians 1:6). We all rightly take comfort in the words, “And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son” (Romans 8:28-29a). But how can we be made more like Christ without turning from the sins which make us unlike Christ? Therefore, why do we not take the same comfort in, “*The Lord disciplines the one he loves*” and “*it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it*” (Hebrews 12:6,11)? Both passages have the same message: You are Christ’s, so become like Christ. Discipline is not

judgment for what you did or did not do. It is the transformative process making you into what you should be.

Discipline is Evidence of Salvation:

Moreover, experiencing discipline is evidence of your salvation. Hebrews 12:7 says, “It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline?” Discipline should not be an experience of condemnation or shame, but of encouragement, because he is treating you as his child. Condemnation is from the enemy, the accuser of our brothers (Romans 8:1; Revelation 12:10), but who can condemn us? “Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us” (Romans 8:34). Who is it that the Lord disciplines? The Lord disciplines one he loves (Hebrews 12:6a). He chastises every son whom he receives (Hebrews 12:6b). God is treating you as sons (Hebrews 12:7b). What if you never experienced the Lord’s discipline? Then you would be illegitimate children and not sons (Hebrews 12:8b).

One of my daughters struggled with learning to tie her shoes. Therefore, she just didn’t want to do it. It would have been easy to give her what she wanted, for me to tie her shoes and send her out to play, but because I love her that is not what I did. Because I love her, I sat with her and trained her to tie her shoes. It would have been natural, though inaccurate, for her to view this as a punishment. “Since I can't tie my shoes, I have to sit on the front stoop and practice, while my sister is already playing.” It would have been accurate, though incomplete, to have said, “In consequence to the fact that I cannot tie my shoes, I am now having to practice it which is hard, it doesn't feel good.” However the best perspective would have been this, “My Mommy loves me.” I love her so much I was willing to make her sit on that stoop with me and practice, no matter how painful at the time. I love her, and I know, if she is trained by my instruction, then she will be that much closer to becoming a well rounded adult. So, as God shows you your sin, repent and thank him. God's discipline is evidence you are his. It is a mark of love.

To Those Who Have Been Trained by It:

To whom does discipline yield the peaceful fruit of righteousness? Hebrew 12:11 says, “For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.” The word “train” means to “exercise”² It is the same Greek word used in Hebrews 5:14 which says, “But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good

² Daily Bible Apps. “KJV Bible with Strong’s.” Google Play Store, (2022). (accessed on 17 June 2026).

from evil” and 1 Timothy 4:7b-8 which says, “train yourself for godliness; for while bodily training is of some value, godliness is of value in every way, as it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come.” When you make yourself run another mile, you aren't punishing yourself; you are disciplining yourself so that you're trained and ready for the big race. This is training, it is practice, it is hard work. It is those who are trained by discipline who will later yield the peaceful fruit. “Therefore lift your drooping hands and strengthen your weak knees, and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be put out of joint but rather be healed” (Hebrews 12:12-13).

The Book of Job is for All Suffering Saints:

On the other hand, perhaps there is one among my readers whose heart is heavy, not because you feel Hebrews 12:5-13 does not apply to you, but because you feel the book of Job does not apply to you. Perhaps you can trace with your finger the root of your suffering to your own sinful choices. Dear Heart, Beloved of God, if the book of Job is not for you, then it can be for none of us. All sin can ultimately be traced back to the choice of man to sin. “Sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned” (Romans 5:12). “All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God” (Romans 3:23). We all are still sinful for none of us are yet made perfect (Philippians 3:12). But all those in Christ have been made blameless through Christ (Colossians 1:22; Philippians 2:15) “and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus” (Romans 3:24-26).

The book of Job is for all Suffering Saints. For the Believer with lung cancer who smoked for forty years, and for the Believer with the same cancer who never smoked a day in her life. For the Believer whose son was murdered, and for the Believer in prison who murdered him. The book of Job applies to the lives of all believers. All of them. All of them who have the blamelessness of Christ (Colossians 1:22), and are being refined into his likeness (Romans 8:29). I must be so careful; I am not trying to claim all suffering is the same (1 Peter 2:18-20) or that we are free to sin. Peter urges Christians to put away sin (1 Peter 2:1-3). 1 Peter 4:15 says, “But let none of you suffer as a murderer or a thief or an evildoer or as a meddler.” And Paul tells us to “put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires” (Romans 13:14). “My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation for our sins”

(1 John 2:1-2a). “If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come” (2 Corinthians 5:17). In Christ, God does not count your trespasses against you (2 Corinthians 5:19). If you have sinned, then confess it to God. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:9). Repent from your sin, turning from it to what is right. Then, forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus (Philippians 3:13b-14). Our trespasses are not counted against us (2 Corinthians 5:19). “For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified” (Hebrews 10:14). We are free in Christ (Galatians 5:1) and we are being disciplined into Christ likeness (Hebrews 12:3-13). The book of Job applies to you, Saint, because you are blameless in Christ and God has promised to work all things for your good to make you more in the image of his Son (Romans 8:28-29). “Therefore lift your drooping hands and strengthen your weak knees, and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be put out of joint but rather be healed” (Hebrews 12:12-13).

Session 6, Part 10:

Pray the Word: Lord, may we “bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ” (Galatians 6:2).

Hear the Word: Let’s look at the impact Job’s suffering had on his three friends.

1. Read Job 42:7-9.
2. What did the LORD say to Eliphaz the Temanite in Job 42:7?
3. What did the LORD tell the three friends to do and why? (Job 42:8)
4. What did the three friends do? (Job 42:9)

- b. What purpose does Paul give for his affliction and his comfort (1:6-7)?

Apply the Word: What impact does our suffering have on those around us? What responsibility does the above verses place on you as a result of your suffering? How are you obeying these verses?

Outline of Job

- I. Job 1-2: The Account of Job's Suffering
- II. Job 3: The Depth of Job's Suffering
- III. Job 4-26: Job's Three Friends Speak, Job Answers
 - a. 4-5 Eliphaz
 - b. 6-7 Job
 - c. 8 Bildad
 - d. 9-10 Job
 - e. 11 Zophar
 - f. 12-14 Job
 - g. 15 Eliphaz
 - h. 16-17 Job
 - i. 18 Bildad
 - j. 19 Job
 - k. 20 Zophar
 - l. 21 Job
 - m. 22 Eliphaz
 - n. 23-24 Job
 - o. 25 Bildad
 - p. 26 Job
- IV. Job 27-31: Job's Discourse
- V. Job 32-37: Elihu Speaks
- VI. Job 38-41: The LORD answers Job
- VII. Job 42: Job Repents, Job Prays for his Friends, Job's Fortunes Restored

I would love to know you are doing the study! Send me an email by going to the contact page of www.Surpassing-Worth.com. If this study has blessed your life, please share it with a friend.

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