

MAIN POINT

God may bless us, but He does not owe us any blessings. Our response to His blessings should be to receive everything He gives with a heart of gratitude. Whether life is fair or not, whether we get blessed or not, God is always good. We are called to respond to life's difficulties by trusting the goodness of God.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Reflect on a difficult time in your life. Describe the range of emotions you felt as you walked through it.

At the time, how did you think God felt about your situation and what did you think He was doing? How was that different from what He actually had planned?

> READ JOB 1:1-3.

How is Job's life summarized in this text? How would the people who know you best summarize your life?

Is it easier to describe or understand others according to their wealth, possessions, or positions than by their character? Why or why not?

How might possessions or position cause a person to have a sense of entitlement? Do you think it is easier or more difficult to have a heart of gratitude when you have lots of possessions like Job? Explain.

> READ JOB 1:13-22.

How did Job respond in verses 20-21?

What difference did Job's faith in God make in the way he dealt with his catastrophic loss? How might a person without faith respond to similar loss?

> READ JOB 2:1-10.

What kind of pressure did Job receive from his wife? How did he respond to her? How do we respond to the pressures of others we love who may not be speaking truth to us?

Ask volunteers to read Job 13:15, Job 19:25-26, and Job 42:3-5. What do these verses confirm for us about the goodness of God from Job's perspective?

Why do you think Job was still able to trust God's goodness after all that he had been through? Why do we so quickly doubt that God is good?

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

What has been the most challenging trial in your life? What have you learned from it? How has it increased your faith in the Lord?

What hardships are causing you to want to give in to an entitlement mentality? What faith response is God asking you to give in light of life's difficulties?

Our vision at Scottsdale Bible Church is to be a community of Christ-followers marked by unwavering faith in Jesus and unconditional love for each other. In light of this week's message, how might we demonstrate both of those things whether life's circumstances seem fair or not?