

It's a job to be Job—Kids' Lesson #12  
Job 11-14

**Hook:** Watch as I take a deep breath in and then let it out. (*Demonstrate inhaling then exhaling in an overt way.*) Now you try. We'll do it together. (*Inhale and exhale along with the kids two or three times.*) Breathing moves air in and out of our lungs. We need to breathe in order to stay alive.

**Book:** As we get further into the book of Job, we see that poor ol' Job continues to suffer. He's still alive, but he's not enjoying life at all because he's in pain, exhausted and discouraged. To make matters worse, Job has a third friend, Zophar, who doesn't act like a true friend at all. Like the others, Zophar accuses Job of lying. "I'm sure what you're saying can't be right," Zophar tells Job. He says that he must have done something against God in order to be suffering like this. Zophar doesn't believe that his friend Job is innocent.

To add to his frustration, Job still doesn't understand why God is allowing him to suffer. He knows he's not perfect, but he also knows that his life has honored God. Even in the midst of feeling miserable, though, Job understands that God is God and He is in charge. He tells Zophar this: **"He (God) holds the life of every creature in His hand. He controls the breath of every human being."** Job 12:10 NIRV

**Look:** We all like to feel like we are in control, don't we? We like having things our own way and we want to be happy all the time, but that is not how life usually works. Have you ever had a pet or other family member pass away? Oh, that is so hard! (*If a child indicates that they've experienced this, take their lead and allow them to talk about it very briefly. Then give your sincere condolences and move on. Don't, however, put the child on the spot by asking him/her questions.*) Or, have you ever been excited to have a play date with a friend, but then either you or your friend comes down with the flu and your plans have to be cancelled? That is so disappointing! We've all experienced situations that make us sad and disappointed. But, Job reminds us that God is in control. God Himself even controls our very breath and how long we live!

**Took:** Today, as you spend time with your family and as you notice the creatures around you (dogs, cats, squirrels, birds...) tell them that God holds His creatures—including us—in His hand. He knows and controls each time we breathe in and out.

Prayer—"Heavenly Father, we don't always understand why You allow difficult things to happen, but we know You are great and You're in control. Amen."

# T.L.C.

## (The Learning Continues—Job Lesson #12)



**What We Learned:** Job still doesn't understand why God is allowing him to suffer. To make matters worse, his friend Zophar accuses him of not telling the truth and doing evil. He tells Job that is the reason he is suffering. Job knows he's not perfect, but he also knows that his life has honored God. Even in the midst of feeling miserable, however, Job acknowledges that God is God and He is in charge.



**Memory Verse:** “He holds the life of every creature in His hand. He controls the breath of every human being.” Job 12:10 NIRV



**Parent/Child Activity:** Sit next to your child and together take a few deep breaths, inhaling and exhaling several times. Ask your child, “Who gives us air and the ability to breathe?” (If you need to, remind your child that God does!) Then observe some creatures—a dog, cat, the birds outside, etc. Marvel with your child that God is the one who holds the life of every creature—including us—in His hand. He knows and controls each time we breathe in and out.



**Daily Prayer:** “Heavenly Father, we don't always understand why You allow difficult things to happen, but we know You are great and You're in control. Amen.”