

PRAYERS OF THE BIBLE

LESSON 2 JOB 38:1-7; 40:1-5; 42:1-6

1. What hit home for you from last week's study on **David's song** in **Psalm 33**, and what encouraged you most as we begin to focus on our prayer life?

JOB'S ENCOUNTER WITH GOD

Job was a man of utmost integrity whose faith in God was tested to the extreme by heartache and great loss (see **Job 1:13-22**). Throughout his agonizing trial he proclaimed his innocence, calling out to God for answers. Following a long silence, God finally speaks.

2. Pray as you read Job's encounter with God in **Job 38:1-7; 40:1-5; and 42:1-6**. (Suggestion: skim all of **Job 38:1-42:6**). Is there a difficult circumstance you or a loved one are in the midst of where you would welcome a better understanding of God? Explain.
3. Read **Job 38:1-3**. Describe God's opening statement in this conversation with Job, and what God is accusing Job of according to **V2**?
4. Read **Job 38:4-7**. God redirects Job's attention from his personal pain to consider questions about the mysteries of creation.
 - a) What do you think was God's purpose in these questions to Job?

4. (Cont'd)

b) Do you think God was dismissive of Job's pain by asking these questions, why or why not?

5. What attributes of God are on display (**V4-7**), and how would remembering these be helpful while enduring difficult seasons or circumstances?

6. In **Ch. 38-39** God continues to ask Job questions while not waiting for a response. Read **Job 40:1-2**. In your own words, what is God asking Job?

7. When Job has the opportunity, how does he respond to God according to **V3-5**? What attitude shift do you sense has occurred in Job?

8. Read **Job 42:1-3**. What are the two aspects of God's character that Job acknowledges? Write a timeless truth from these verses.

9. In this amazing encounter with God, Job's suffering was never directly addressed by Him. Rather, Job was led to recognize God's sovereignty over all creation including humankind. See also **Psalm 8:3-4**.

- a) What action and heart attitude does Job model for us (V5-6)?

- b) How might Job's example affect how you pray or think differently about God when you or your loved one experiences personal hardship or suffering?

10. HEART REFLECTION

Consider what you learned from Job's encounter with God together with **Psalm 19:14** "**May these words of my mouth and this meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer.**" Write a prayer as you reflect on ways we can ensure that our words and thoughts from our heart are pleasing to God.

NAME

PRAYER REQUEST