

Sunday Worship & The Word: God's Plan For Job



Kingdom Kids

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Today we are going to learn that God doesn't always take away sad times. We'll discover a guy in the Bible name Job who had really sad times, but he still praised God! Sometimes we are sad, but sometimes we are happy! What are some things that make you happy?



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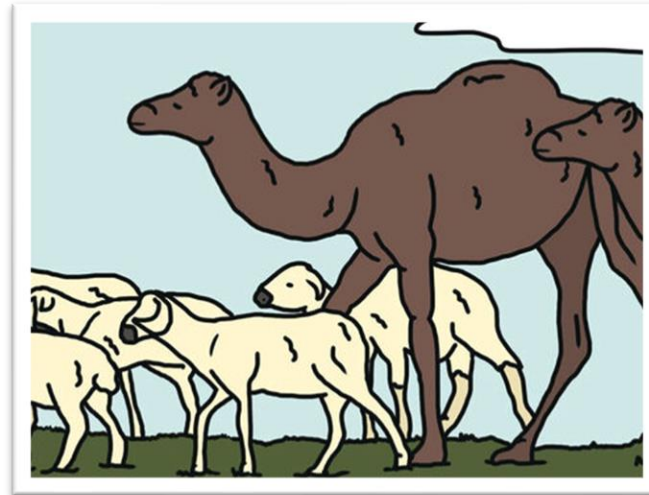
If we could choose, we'd have only happy things happen to us. But that really isn't the way that it works. Sometimes we have sad times, and God doesn't always take away the sad times, but God does give us the Bible and family and friends who love us to comfort us in sad times. Lets open our Bible to the book of Job and start with prayer.



In our true Bible story, Job's life got really, really sad. God didn't take away Job's sad times. Let's see what happens to job, Job had a good life, he was rich and comfortable, with a great family. Listen to everything that Job had.

Job 1:2-3

Job had seven sons and three daughters. He owned 7,000 sheep, and 3,000 camels. He owned 500 pairs of oxen, and 500 donkeys. He also had a large number of servants. He was the most important man among all the people in the east.

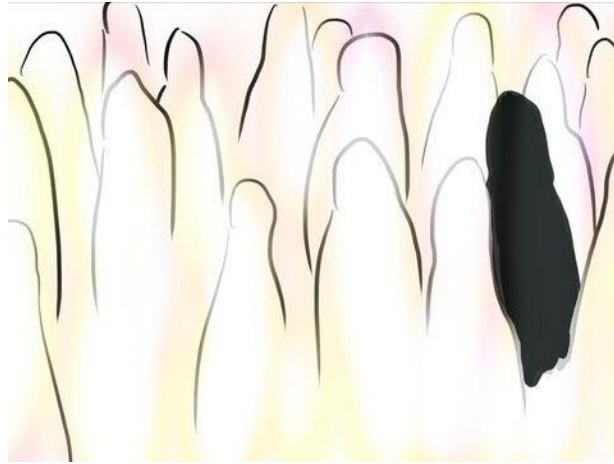


In Bible time how rich you were was not counted by how much money you had but by how big your family was, how much land you had, and how much animals and crops that you had. So Job was a very rich man. Job praised God for all that God had done for him and his family. Lets see what happens, so you can experience maybe what job was feeling I want you to go and grab all of your favorite things and mom and dad, when I say that job lost something I want you to take away one of those favorite items. You will need 3 items at least.



Job 1:6-12

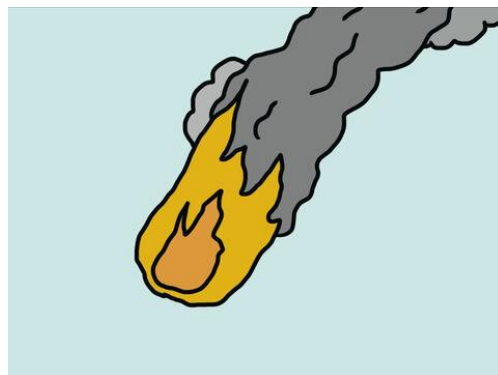
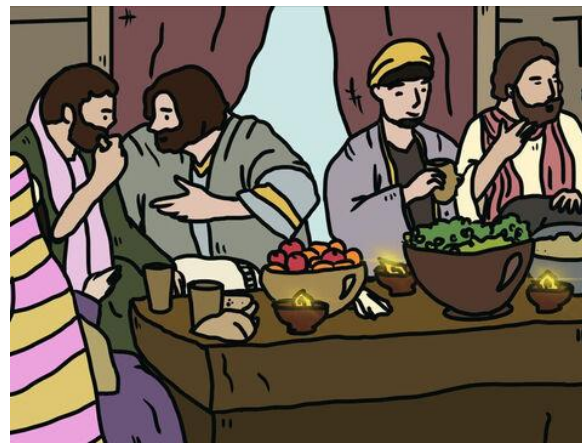
6 One day angels came to the Lord. Satan also came with them. 7 The lord said to Satan, "Where have you come from?" Satan answered, "From traveling all around the earth. I've been going from one end of it to the other." 8 Then the Lord said to Satan "Have you thought about my servant Job? There isn't anyone on earth like him. He is honest. He does what is right. He has respect of God and avoids evil." 9 "You always give Job everything he needs," Satan replied. "That's why he has respect for you. 10 Haven't you guarded him and his family? Haven't you taken care of everything he has? You have blessed everything he does. His flocks and herds are spread all through the land. 11 But now reach out your hand and strike down everything he has. Then I'm sure he will speak evil things against you. In fact, he'll do it right in front of you." 12 The Lord said to Satan, "All right, I am handing everything he has over to you. But do not touch the man himself." Then Satan left the Lord and went on his way.



So Satan started to take away Job's stuff. Let's see what he took away.



Okay Mom and Dad this is where I need your help. Every time I mention Satan taking something away from Job I want you to take something that the kids have brought out. Kids I want you to think about how you feel when your mom and dad take away your stuff, remember you haven't done anything wrong just like Job didn't do anything wrong. How do you think Job felt?



Job 1:13-19

13 One day Job's sons and daughter's were at their oldest brother's house. They were enjoying good food and drinking wine. 14 during that time a messenger came to Job. He said, "The oxen were plowing. The donkeys were eating grass near them. 15 Then the Sabeans attacked us and carried off the animals. They killed some of the servants with their swords. I'm the only one who has escaped to tell you!" 16 While he was speaking, a second messenger came. He said, "God sent lighting from the sky. It struck the sheep and killed them. It burned up some of the servants. I'm the only one who has escaped to tell you!" 17 While he was speaking, a third messenger came. He said, "The Chaldeans separated themselves into three groups. They attacked your camels and carried them off. They killed the rest of the servants with their swords. I'm the only who escaped to tell you!" 18 While he was still speaking, a fourth messenger came. He said "your sons and daughters were at their oldest brothers house. They were enjoying food and drinking wine. 19 Suddenly a strong wind blew in from the desert. It struck the four corners of the house. The house fell down on your children. Now all of them are dead. I'm the only one who escaped to tell you!"



Job even lost his house and most of his family! What would you do or say? Let's see how Job reacted.

Job 1:20-22

20 After Job heard all these reports, he got up and tore his robe. He shaved his head. Then he fell to the ground and worshiped the Lord. 21 He said, "I was born naked. And I'll leave here naked. The Lord has given, and the Lord has taken away. May the name of the Lord be praised." 22 In spite of everything, Job didn't sin by blaming God for doing anything wrong.

Even though Job literally lost EVERYTHING that he had he still praised God. He knew that God had a reason for what was happening to him. But Satan wasn't done with Job, things got worse for Job lets find out what happened. Do you think that there is anything that could happen to Job that would make him turn away from God?



Job 2:4-7

4 Satan replied “ A man will give everything he has to save himself. So Job is willing to give up the lives of his family to save his own life. 5 But now reach out your hand and strike his flesh and bones. Then I’m sure he will speak evil things against you. In fact, he’ll do it right in front of you.” 6 The Lord said to Satan, “ All right. I am handing him over to you. But you must spare his life.” 7 Then Satan left the Lord and went on his way. He sent painful sores on Job. They covered him from the bottom of his feet to the top of his head.



Boils are really uncomfortable bumps on your skin. Job would've been itchy and in pain. On top of all of that had already happened Job's wife was telling him to curse God!



Job still had some friends. At first they cried with him....but then they tried to tell him his troubles were all his fault. They thought Job must've done something really horrible, and God was punishing him. But that's not why so many bad things were happening to Job! And lets face it he had A LOT of bad things happen to him!



Job didn't know why so many sad things were happening. But the hard times seemed to be sticking around. God doesn't always take away sad times, and Job was sad about everything that he'd lost. He had some questions for God.

Job 13:23-24

23 How many things have I done wrong? How many sins have I committed? Show me my crime. Show me my sin. 24 Why do you turn your face away from me? Why do you think of me as your enemy?



Job asked questions. He wanted to know why he had sad times and why God doesn't always take away sad times. But he never sinned in what he said to God. God wanted Job to know that God is in charge. Even though God doesn't always take away sad time, he always has a good plan. He know what he is doing! God spoke back to job. He talk about all the things that He made and how He controls the weather. Let's hear some of the things that God said.

Job 38:12,22,& 34

12 "Job , have you ever commanded the morning to come? Have you ever shown the sun where to rise?"

22 "Have you entered the places where the snow is kept?"

34 "Can you give orders to the clouds? Can you make them pour rain down on you?"



Even though God doesn't always take away sad times, God did eventually make Job feel better. It seems like it took a long time but listen to this.

Job 42:10-13

10 After Job prayed for his friends, the Lord made him successful again. He gave him twice as much as he had before. 11 All his brothers and sisters and everyone who had known him before came to see him. They ate with him in his house. They showed their concern for him. They comforted him because of all the troubles the Lord had brought on him. Each one gave him a piece of silver and a gold ring. 12 The Lord blessed the last part of Job's life even more than the first part. He gave Job 14,000 sheep, and 6,000 camels. He gave him 1,000 pairs of oxen, and 1,000 donkeys. 13 Job also had seven sons and three daughters.



We are going to learn about some advice Job's friends gave him. Sometimes we have really sad problems, and we need help. God doesn't always take away sad times, but he can send people to give us good advice when we're going through hard times. Sometimes, though, people give advice that's not so good.

Throughout the book of Job, Job's friends had a lot of advice for him.



Job 11:13-16

Job's friends said that Job should apologize to God for what he'd done wrong. But Job insisted that he hadn't done anything wrong. Sometimes advice from a friend is helpful and healing and sometimes it is not. God doesn't always take away sad times. So when we see other people going through hard times, how can we give good advice and avoid being like Job's friends? What should we say? What shouldn't we say? Let's dig into that a little deeper

13" So commit yourself to God completely. Reach out your hands to him for help. 14 Get rid of all the sin you have. Don't let anything that is evil stay in your tent. 15 Then, free of those things, you can face others. You can stand firm without being afraid. 16 You can be sure you will forget your troubles. They will be like water that has flowed on by."

Here is some common advice that people give in sad times:

- God won't give you more than you can handle
- You must have done something wrong, and you were being punished.
- God will work this out for good.
- God has a plan
- You should be full of God's joy all the time, so don't feel sad.

Is this advice helpful? Does this advice fit this verse?

Ephesians 4:29 *"Don't let evil talk come out of your mouths. Say only what will help to build others up and meet their needs."*

Some of these statements are true. The Bible promises in Romans 8:28 that God works everything together for the good of those who love him. Jeremiah 29:11 says that God has a good plan for us. But sometimes when someone is hurting really badly, those statements might not feel comforting. They are helpful later, but in the moment the person might just need permission to feel sad. It's okay to feel sad! Sometimes the best thing you can do is just and let someone cry on your shoulder. The Bible talks about that in Romans 12:15. Being happy with happy people and sad with sad people is called empathy. It means recognizing how the other person feels and letting him or her know that its okay to feel that way. If your trying too hard to be cheerful, you might make that person like its wrong to be sad. The Bible talks about that in Proverbs 25:20.

