Job 1:1 – 14:22 - Study Questions

**Read Job 1:1 – 2:13**

What questions do you have after reading this text?

What do you find most interesting in this passage?

1:21 is one of the most well known verses in the book of Job. Given all that has happened to Job it is remarkable that he could say “blessed be the name of the Lord”. What kind of response would you expect if someone you knew lost everything in their life?

What do you make of the bartering between the satan and God? Does God need to justify God’s self to the satan? Why even participate in the conversation?

How do Job’s friends respond to his suffering in 2:11-13?

**Read Job 3:1-7:21**

\*\*\* This section begins the poetic form of the dialogue between Job and his friends. Pay particular attention to who is speaking as a way to better understand the story. \*\*\*

What questions do you have after reading this text?

What do you find most interesting in this passage?

Job speaks in the form of lament in chapter 3. Lament is common throughout the Bible as a way to respond to suffering and evil. (Lamentations, Psalms, Isaiah, Jeremiah, and others). Read Psalm 22. What are Job and the Psalmist calling for through their lament?

In chapters 4 & 5 Eliphaz responds to Job’s Lament. What is the gist of what he is saying?

What makes sense to you in Eliphaz’s argument? What is out of place?

In chapters 6 & 7 Job continues his complaint. What does Job want from God?

7:17 & 18 are a Parody of Psalm 8:5. What is being said in each verse?

**Read Job 8: 1- 10:22**

\*\*\* This section continues the poetic form of the dialogue between Job and his friends. Pay particular attention to who is speaking as a way to better understand the story. \*\*\*

What questions do you have after reading this text?

What do you find most interesting in this passage?

In this reading we have the dialogue between Bildad and Job. What is the gist of Bildad’s argument in chapter 8?

According to your experience does life always work this way?

In chapters 9 & 10 Job responds to Bildad. What is the problem according to Job?

See 9:16 –

What is the other issue addressed in 9:32?

How does Job perceive God’s role in his suffering according to chapter 10?

**Read Job 11:1-14:22**

\*\*\* This section continues the poetic form of the dialogue between Job and his friends. Pay particular attention to who is speaking as a way to better understand the story. \*\*\*

What questions do you have after reading this text?

What do you find most interesting in this passage?

In Chapter 11 Zophar speaks. What is the gist of what Zophar has to tell his friend?

1-6 –

7-12 –

13-20 –

Job responds to Zophar in 12:1-13:19. What is the tone of this response? What is Job trying to convey to Zophar?

In 13:20 the tone changes as Job begins speaking to God. How would you describe the tone of Job’s prayer?

What other elements of this dialogue are intriguing to you?

Do you have any favorite phrases that stand out either as odd/funny, or ideal for expressing lament?