



THINK IT THROUGH

One way of exposing real worshipers from those who are going through the motions is to strip away something of value. Discuss.



INVESTIGATE

4. A GODLY RESPONSE TO SUFFERING

Summarise Job's initial reaction in 1:20a; 2:8; 3:1-4, 11.

What is God's assessment of Job at the end of the book? (42:7)

Job also worships God. How does 1:21 deal such a blow to Satan?

What aspects of God's character does Job focus on in 1:21 and 2:10?

- How is each a comfort in times of suffering?

How did Job view all that he had lost (1:21)? *What's the lesson for us?*



THINK IT THROUGH

How does Job point us to Jesus? (1 Peter 2:19-23)

What do we need to do when Satan whispers, "God doesn't really love you or he would make life more comfortable for you"?



PRAY IT THROUGH

Ask for God's help to...

- Accept the mystery of often not knowing why we suffer.
- Love him because he is worthy in himself.
- Keep trusting the God who is sovereign and beyond our control.
- Grasp his grace and unfailing love.

HOME GROUPS at Deeside



In the Eye of the Storm

Study 1: Job and his suffering (Job 1:1-2:10)

w/c 26th August 2018



FOR STARTERS

"There is nothing more certain in life than that you will suffer."

- Do you agree with this statement? Why or why not?



BACKGROUND

The book of Job addresses the question of suffering with integrity, realism and wisdom. It has four main sections:

- Prologue: Job and his suffering. (Job 1:1-2:10)
- Dialogue: Job and his friends. (Job 2:11-37:24)
- Monologue: Job and his God. (Job 38:1-42:6)
- Epilogue: Job and his happy ending (Job 42:7-16)

READ Job 1:1-22



INVESTIGATE

1. INNOCENT SUFFERING

In the opening verses we are told about Job's wealth and family, but what is the most important aspect of his life (1:1, 8; 2:3)?

What happens to Job in 1:13-19?

Putting all this together, what is the key principle here?

Why is it so important to remember that God may be delighted with us and yet we may suffer intensely?



THINK IT THROUGH

What sort of questions go through our minds when we suffer?



INVESTIGATE

2. MYSTERIOUS SUFFERING

What advantage do we have over Job when it comes to the dialogue between Satan and God in 1:6-12 and 2:1-6?

(Even at the end of the book Job never discovers why he suffered).

What is the key principle for us here?



THINK IT THROUGH

Why do we find it so hard to live with 'mystery'?

- What attitudes of the heart will we need to handle this?
- How does this principle help us to be sensitive towards others who are suffering?



INVESTIGATE

3. THE TRUTH EXPOSED BY SUFFERING

Summarise the big issue posed by Satan in 1:9-11.

What is God's response (1:12; 2:6)? What does Satan then do?

Who is responsible for Job's suffering?

- How does God's role in Job's suffering make you feel?