

Old Testament

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Through the Old Testament in Two Years

Part Two



Created for use with young, unchurched learners
Adaptable for all ages including adults

Old Testament

Job's Friends

Last week we learned that Job was a godly man who honored God. God gave Satan permission to do what he wanted with Job except kill him. Satan took Job's riches and children. But Job did not sin against God. He trusted God.

Job 3-12; 11:13-20

Read the Bible

READ: Job 4:3-21 (Hold your Bible open throughout the story.)

Memory Verse:

He comforts us
in all our troubles.
Now we can comfort others
when they are in trouble.
We ourselves have received
comfort from God.
(II Corinthians 1:4 NIV)

Begin With Prayer

After Job lost his children and his riches, three of his friends came to talk to Job. They talked about why God let these things happen. Job's friends were wrong about God but let's see what they say to Job.

Eliphaz reminds Job that he taught and helped people. "Look, you taught many people. You made weak hands strong. Your words helped those who had fallen down. You made shaky knees strong." (Job 4:3-4 NIV) Then he tells him that he should not complain about his troubles. Eliphaz says that God brings judgment on the wicked hoping to make Job repent of his sins (which must have brought God's judgment). (Job 4:3-21)

Job must have been experiencing deep pain. He had lost all his children. He had lost all his riches. Sometimes when people are experiencing deep loss, it is better not to try to speak words of comfort. Sometimes a hug or just our presence is enough. Unfortunately, Job's friends did not understand that.

Instead of comforting Job, his friends tried to convince him that he and his children had sinned. They tried to convince him to repent so that he could be restored.

Bildad tells Job that God is just. He tells him that his children sinned and God punished them. Then Bildad tells Job to be honest and God will restore him. He tells Job that God doesn't turn his back on those who are honest. (Job 8:1-22)

Zophar says to Job, "...commit yourself to God completely. Reach out

Goals

1. Understand that Job's friends were wrong about God.
2. Recognize that Job's friends were wrong about Job.
3. Learn that Job's friends thought they were helping Job.
4. Understand that Job's friends were terrible comforters.

Job's Friends – Bible Facts

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|---|---|
| 1. Job taught and helped people. | 2. Eliphaz said that God brings judgment on the wicked. |
| 3. Job's friends wanted to convince Job to confess his sin. | 4. Job had not sinned. |

your hands to Him for help. Get rid of all of the sin you have. Don't let anything that is evil stay in your tent." (Job 11:13-14 NIV) Zophar tells Job that if he will put his sin away he will not have to be afraid, he will forget his troubles, and he will have hope. (Job 11:15-20)

Zophar was trying to help Job, too. The problem was that Job had not sinned. He had not done any of the things he was being accused of doing.

Sometimes people think they know God, but they don't. Sometimes people think they know us, but they don't. Job's friends were wrong about Job. They were wrong about God. Job finally told his friends that they were terrible comforters. (Job 16:1)

Job had lots of things happen to him. He still loved God and trusted Him to take care of him even when everything he had was gone. Job's children whom he loved were all gone. He went from being a rich man to being a homeless, sick man. Job kept doing right; even when it seemed like everyone deserted him.

Review

1. **What did Eliphaz say to Job?** (Job taught and helped people.)
2. **What did Eliphaz say about God?** (God brings judgment on the wicked.)
3. **What did Job's friends try to do?** (They wanted Job to confess his sin.)
4. **What did God do?** (God gave Job twice as much as he had before.)

Do You Know Jesus?

Jesus willingly gave up all that heaven has to offer to come to earth. He chose to die for our sins. Jesus died on a cross. (John 3:16) Three days later Jesus rose from the dead. If we believe and trust Jesus and ask Him into our lives, He will come and be a part of our lives forever. (Romans 10:9-10) If you would like to know more, talk to your teacher about it.

Prayer Time

1. Take a moment to listen to God.
2. Thank God for sending Jesus to help us.
3. Ask God to help you honor Him.
4. Pray for friends and family members who need to honor God.

Application

Job's friends thought they were helping Job. The friends were wrong about God and they were wrong about Job. They wanted Job to confess his sins so that he could be restored. But Job had not sinned. Job's friends were terrible comforters. The Bible says, "He comforts us in all our troubles. Now we can comfort others when they are in trouble. We ourselves have received comfort from God. (II Corinthians 1:4 NIV)

Planning for Next Week

Job's Restoration—Job 42

Preschool Lesson

Read the Bible

READ: Job 4:3-21 (Hold your Bible open throughout the story.)

Teachers: Bring toy gold coins. Let one group hide the coins and let the other group find them. Let the groups trade places.

Many bad things happened to Job. He did not get mad at God. Job knew that God was taking care of him and would help him during this hard time. Job was very sad but he talked to God and asked God to help him during this hard time.

Job's friends came to help Job. They told Job God was punishing him for his sin. They wanted him to tell God what he done. They wanted him to stop doing wrong. They told Job if he would do that, God would restore him. The friends were wrong about God. God was not punishing Job. Job's friends were wrong about Job. He done nothing wrong.

Even when times were very hard for Job, he never did wrong. He didn't blame God or someone else for the problems. He still loved God and knew that God would take care of him.

Sometimes people think they know God and they don't. Sometimes people think they know us and they don't. Job's friends were wrong about Job. They were wrong about God

Job had lots of things happen to him. He still loved God and trusted Him to take care of him even when everything he had was gone. Everything Job loved was gone. He went from a rich man to a homeless, sick man. Job kept doing right; even when it seemed like everyone deserted him.

Even then, he kept loving God and asking God to help him. He knew that he could trust God and God would take care of him.

Prayer Time

1. Take a moment to listen to God.
2. Thank God for sending Jesus to help us.
3. Ask God to help you honor Him.
4. Pray for friends and family members who need to honor God.

Memory verse for younger children

He comforts us in all our troubles. II Corinthians 1:4

Learning Activities

Memory verse activity — Let the children divide into groups of four to learn the verse. Have heart cutouts ready for the children. Ask the children to write the Bible verse on the hearts.

Test your memory — Job's friends were wrong. Make a list of the things that were wrong. Make cards that say, "Wrong." As you tell the story point to the things that were wrong. Ask the children to hold up their cards when you point to something on the list.

Taste activity — Bring heart-shaped candy. Remind the children that God loved Job and cared about him.

Think about it — Job's friends were wrong about God and wrong about Job. Talk about the importance of knowing what the Bible says about God.

Job's friends accused him of sinning against God. They said God was punishing him. Talk about what to do when falsely accused. Encourage the children to pray, to speak truth, etc.

Touch activity — Bring gold toy coins. Let one group hide the coins and let the other group find them. Let the groups trade places.

Make heart puppets out of paper bags.

Bring dolls or plastic toys to represent Job's friends. Let the children use the toys to dramatize the story.

Run and play — Job's friends really wanted to help Job. Have a potato sack race. Talk about running the race together.

Have the children run races in pairs. Ask the children to lock arms to run.

•**Listen** — As the children take time for silence, remind them that God wants us to trust Him no matter what their circumstances are.

•**Sing** — Sing "Trust and Obey," "Only Trust Him," "What a Friend We Have in Jesus," or another song related to the story.

•**Reach out** — During class, pray (by name) for kids who did not come today. Ask the children to go with you to deliver the handouts and hearts with Bible verse to those who were absent. Pray with the children who were absent. Encourage them to read the story in the Bible.

Memory Verse

He comforts us
in all our troubles.
Now we can comfort
others when they
are in trouble.
We ourselves have
received comfort
from God.
II Corinthians 1:4

Word Puzzle

Trace the letters.

Job's

friends

were

wrong

Word Search

B R K T D D E T O N O H S P D F D
T O E F N D R M S R B S E R K E S
C Y J H R E G F T E E E P T R G B
G H S I N U P N K F N S R O L R N
F L W E N S F E N S S O T L K E E
K S E N R E Z O R D M S H R R C R
B S E M Y A C M A A E K A D N G D
M E D H H B L D E R S H G Y K H L
G T F P C C L O F I P I P N G R I
N B I I G I F C S O H L S I O M H
K L P L B S R F Z T L F R P G R C
E S B S M Q H T L A E H J S W E W

LOST
ELIPHAZ
CONFESS
PUNISH

CHILDREN
BILDAD
REPENT
HONEST

RICHES
ZOPHAR
RESTORED
WRONG

Word Search

B	R	K	T	D	D	E	T	O	N	O	H	S	P	D	F	D
T	O	E	F	N	D	R	M	S	R	B	S	E	R	K	E	S
C	Y	J	H	R	E	G	F	T	E	E	E	P	T	R	G	B
G	H	S	I	N	U	P	N	K	F	N	S	R	O	L	R	N
F	L	W	E	N	S	F	E	N	S	S	O	T	L	K	E	E
K	S	E	N	R	E	Z	O	R	D	M	S	H	R	R	C	R
B	S	E	M	Y	A	C	M	A	A	E	K	A	D	N	G	D
M	E	D	H	H	B	L	D	E	R	S	H	G	Y	K	H	L
G	T	F	P	C	C	L	O	F	I	P	I	P	N	G	R	I
N	B	I	I	G	I	F	C	S	O	H	L	S	I	O	M	H
K	L	P	L	B	S	R	F	Z	T	L	F	R	P	G	R	C
E	S	B	S	M	Q	H	T	L	A	E	H	J	S	W	E	W

LOST
ELIPHAZ
CONFESS
PUNISH

CHILDREN
BILDAD
REPENT
HONEST

RICHES
ZOPHAR
RESTORED
WRONG

Word Search

K F B G J F K H D F L J
N E H E M E L I P H A Z
B F C H F K D G R N D N
R G M K R S B I L D A D
T P J H P N G K F B S H
J C S W M P Z O P H A R
H R K G F M D R K B N P
P S T B F R E S T O R E
R S H V T R C F G P K S
W A L Q V R H O N E S T
S G F S H K P F B G L D
M K R D S C O N F E S S

ELIPHAZ

BILDAD

ZOPHAR

CONFESS

HONEST

RESTORE

Word Search

K	F	B	G	J	F	K	H	D	F	L	J
N	E	H	E	M	E	L	I	P	H	A	Z
B	F	C	H	F	K	D	G	R	N	D	N
R	G	M	K	R	S	B	I	L	D	A	D
T	P	J	H	P	N	G	K	F	B	S	H
J	C	S	W	M	P	Z	O	P	H	A	R
H	R	K	G	F	M	D	R	K	B	N	P
P	S	T	B	F	R	E	S	T	O	R	E
R	S	H	V	T	R	C	F	G	P	K	S
W	A	L	Q	V	R	H	O	N	E	S	T
S	G	F	S	H	K	P	F	B	G	L	D
M	K	R	D	S	C	O	N	F	E	S	S

ELIPHAZ

BILDAD

ZOPHAR

CONFESS

HONEST

RESTORE

Anagram

BOJ

DEFSRIN

MFROTOC

LPEH

PALHIZE

IBALDD

PHAROZ

PENTER

SOTERER

Anagram

JOB

FRIENDS

COMFORT

HELP

ELIPHAZ

BILDAD

ZOPHAR

REPENT

RESTORE