

It's a job to be Job!

JOB 4-7

Questions are based on the New International Version (NIV) 2011 edition.

LESSON 10

1. What truth, verse or insight from last week's study about **Friends** has been helpful to you?
 2. In **Chapter 4**, the poetic dialogues begin between Job and his three friends who convey their thoughts on his suffering. They do not know about Satan's conversation with God (**Job 1:6-12**). Pray and ask for God's guidance as you study the first conversation between Eliphaz and Job.
 3. a) From **Job 4:1-5**, try to summarize how Eliphaz began his counsel to Job?

b) What does the question in **4:6** imply about Job?
 4. a) In **4:7-9**, what principle was Eliphaz basing his counsel on? Read **Proverbs 22:8** and **28:10** for insight.

b) From your own experience, give an example of an exception to this principle.

c) How did Jesus respond to this principle as asserted by the disciples in **John 9:1-3**?
 5. In **4:17-21**, how does Eliphaz contrast the condition of man versus God? Do you think he presents an accurate picture of man? Explain.
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6. From **Job 5:1-7**, what strikes you about Eliphaz's discussion of the foolish person and the consequences of the fool's actions? How appropriate or helpful to Job is this discourse?

7. In **5:8-16**, what traits of God are praised?

8. a) According to **5:17-18**, what spiritual reality was Eliphaz seeking to apply to Job? For more on this principle, read **Hebrews 12:5-11**.

b) What have been some of the fruits of the Lord's correction in your life?

9. a) What did Eliphaz say would result if Job embraced God's discipline in **5:19-27**?

b) In your opinion, would any of these words from Eliphaz have been an encouragement to Job?

10. a) In **Job 6:1-13**, of all the imagery Job used to describe his deep anguish, which is the most powerful to you and why?

b) What would you say are some of the sources of his anguish from these verses?

11. a) Job directs some criticism to his friends regarding the quality of their friendship and their words in **6:14-30**. What are some of his criticisms?

b) What are some of Job's statements in his own defense in which he maintained his innocence?

c) In what situations have you been misunderstood by your friends or unable to engage in meaningful communication with them?

12. a) In **Job 7:1-10**, Job mourns the futility of his life. Where do you see this expressed in the poetry of these verses?

b) Have you ever been hit with a sense of the futility of life? To whom or to what did you turn?

13. Job cried out to the Lord in his pain in **7:11-16**. Which of his statements most touches your heart?
14. Reflect on Job's questions about the Lord's attention to mankind in **7:17-21**, and compare his tone with that of David's in **Psalms 8:3-4**.
15. a) Recognizing the power of words, how would it have been "**a job to be Job**" and hear the words of Eliphaz?
- b) What words would you want to hear from a friend if you were in Job's situation?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. As Job understood, words have the power to build up and the power to injure. Find nuggets of truth about the effect of our words in the following verses.
- Job 19:2** _____
- Psalms 64:3** _____
- Proverbs 10:19** _____
- Proverbs 16:24** _____
- Ecclesiastes 9:17** _____
- Matthew 12:36-37** _____
- Matthew 15:18-19** _____
2. Words have spiritual significance (for good or for evil). What do you learn from these verses?
- Psalms 19:14** _____
- Jeremiah 23:30** _____
- Mark 8:38** _____
- 1 Corinthians 2:4** _____
- Jude 1:14b-15** _____
3. a) Write out the Suggested Memory Verse: **Job 6:14**.
- b) Form a prayer for any part of this Lesson.

