

It's a job to be Job!

JOB 29-31

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

LESSON 18

1. What truth, verse, or insight from last week's study of the **Job 28** was helpful to you?

2. Pray and ask for God's guidance before reading Job's final defense in **Chapters 29-31**.
3. a) From **29:1-5a**, what words or phrases does Job use to describe his relationship to God in "the months gone by?"

b) Have you ever experienced God's "intimate friendship?" Describe.

4. From **29:5b-11**, how would you characterize Job's home life and standing in his community?

5. From the long list of Job's good works in **29:11-17**, which one(s) impressed you the most and why?

6. What does **18-20** reveal about Job's expectations for his future. How realistic do you think they were?

7. What do you learn about Job's character and/or leadership style by examining his description of himself in **29:21-25**?

8. a) In light of how Job was viewed by his community, what was he now experiencing in **30:1-15**?
- b) How do we see a version of that happening in our culture today? How have you dished out or received something similar?
9. What were Job's accusations against God in **30:16-31**?
10. Have you ever experienced God's silence (perhaps in the form of unanswered prayers) as you vented to God in prayer? What did you learn from that season?
11. A natural human response to personal suffering is to vent and/or cast blame. To whom or what do you usually vent or assign blame for your personal setbacks or suffering?
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12. a) Read **31:1-8**. What attributes of God surfaced in these verses?
- b) Like a lawyer preparing his final summation for the judge, Job outlined his own defense. In your own words, how was Job trying to convey his suffering was wrong? (**31:1-8**)
13. What situations incite a passion in you to defend yourself or to defend others?

14. a) In **31:9-34**, Job detailed a long list of sins and punishments he would rightfully deserve IF he had committed them. List those sins (and punishments were applicable):

31:9-12 _____

31:13-23 _____

31:24-25 _____

31:26-28 _____

31:29-30 _____

31:31-34 _____

b) What did Job identify that kept him from committing these sins in **V11, V14, V23, V28**?

15. Read **31:35-40** with **V6**. Job was so confident of his blamelessness that he invited "his accuser" to write out his indictment. How do you explain Job's position of confidence?

16. It's been **a job to be Job** in trying to prove his innocence to his friends by recounting his good works. Are good works enough for a person to be judged as blameless before a Holy God? Try to defend your answer with Scripture.

DIGGING DEEPER

1. Job spoke of his intimate friendship with God. What do the following verses say about how God feels about us?

Song of Songs 7:10 _____

Zephaniah 3:17 _____

Zechariah 2:8b _____

John 15:15 _____

2. How can a person grow in their intimacy with God according to:

Ephesians 1:17 _____

James 4:8a _____

3. a) Write out the Suggested Memory Verse: **Job 29:4**

b) Form a prayer based on this Lesson.

