

# WHEN IT HURTS

The Life of Job

## WHEN BAD THINGS HAPPEN TO GOOD PEOPLE

*Job 1:1-2:10*

Suffering is unavoidable.

Suffering reveals our deepest beliefs about life, ourselves, and God.

- Life is not an entitlement but a gift.
- What we carry into suffering shapes our experience dramatically.
- God doesn't "pay us" to be good. God suffered to make us good.

Sufferers can experience comfort, joy, and God's presence as they grow through their pain.

# MY APPLICATION

Use the following questions this week to reflect on what it would mean to align yourself with the truths taught in Scripture. Each question is meant for both personal reflection and as a catalyst for discussion with your family, friends, or small group.

1. Describe a time when you were going through a form of suffering. How did it come about? What was it like for you? Did you experience a shift in your perspective?
2. Do you believe that if you do the best you can and stay positive, God will keep you from suffering? Consider Satan's challenge to God in Job 1:9-11, and 2:4. Does God "pay us" blessings to keep us doing good? If Job was simply being good so that God would bless him, how would he have responded to the suffering he received? See 1:20-22, 2:9-10
3. Read Romans 8:28, and Psalm 23. What perspective do we get from these verses about suffering and God's involvement with us?
4. Since what we carry into suffering shapes our experience dramatically, what will you bring into the suffering that you may face in the future? What would you like to bring that may not be your today?

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## MEMORY VERSE

*and said: "Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked I will depart. The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away; may the name of the LORD be praised."*

***Job 1:21***