



Finding Direction During Painful Seasons

August 30, 2020

Special Prayer: For Jacob Blake Shot in Kenosha, Wisconsin

Youth Questions

1. How do you deal with the Coronavirus and going back to school? (**Carefully**)
2. How do you manage the fear of contracting the virus? (**Remember fear does not help**)
3. How do you keep from panicking during this season? (**Decide to Live**)
4. Why would God allow the virus to come into the world? (**No, God did not allow the virus, man created an environment where it could come into the world and spread. In Genesis 2:15, God told Adam and Eve to tend the garden.**)
5. Is the virus a punishment from God because we have been disobedient? (**No, but it is being used by God to expose, elevate, relaunch, and restore many people.**)
6. Do the people who died from the virus go to heaven because they were victims? (**We do not go to heaven because of works, Ephesians 2:8-9**)
7. What can I do if my family is struggling to eat because of the virus? (**Reach out for help**)

Statement: This has been a tough season in our country. I looked for someone in the Bible that could show us how to maneuver through tough seasons. I chose Job as an example of someone who managed painful seasons.

I. Job's Season of Peace, Prosperity, and Favor Job 1:1-5 (NKJV)

1 There was a man in the land of Uz, whose name was Job; and that man was **blameless and upright**, and one who feared God and shunned evil. 2 And **seven sons and three daughters were born to him**. 3 Also, his **possessions** were seven thousand sheep, three thousand camels, five hundred yoke of oxen, five hundred female donkeys, and a very large household, so that this man was the greatest of all the people of the East.

4 And his sons would go and feast in their houses, each on his appointed day, and would send and invite their three sisters to eat and drink with them. 5 So it was, **when the days of feasting had run their course, that Job would send and sanctify them, and he would rise early in the morning and offer burnt offerings according to the number of them all**. For Job said, "It may be that my sons have sinned and cursed God in their hearts." Thus Job did regularly.

- A. He kept up with his data and was a great entrepreneur
- B. He was involved in his adult kids' life
- C. He interceded for his children when they were adults (v4-5)

II. Job's Season of Challenge and Privilege

Job 1:6–12 (NKJV)

6 Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan also came among them. 7 And the Lord said to Satan, "From where do you come?" So Satan answered the Lord and said, "From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking back and forth on it." **8 Then the Lord said to Satan, "Have you considered My servant Job, that there is none like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, one who fears God and shuns evil?"**9 So Satan answered the Lord and said, "Does Job fear God for nothing? 10 Have You not made a hedge around him, around his household, and around all that he has on every side? You have blessed the work of his hands, and his possessions have increased in the land. 11 But now, stretch out Your hand and touch all that he has, and he will surely curse You to Your face!" 12 And the Lord said to Satan, "Behold, all that he has is in your power; only do not lay a hand on his person." So Satan went out from the presence of the Lord.

Question: Why would God mention Job to Satan?

Side Questions:

1. Why would Satan question Job's loyalty?
2. Is your loyalty questionable?

III. Job's Response to a Season of Pain

Job 1:13–22 (NKJV)

13 Now there was a day when his sons and daughters were eating and drinking wine in their oldest brother's house; 14 and a messenger came to Job and said, "The oxen were plowing and the donkeys feeding beside them, **15 when the Sabeans raided them and took them away—indeed they have killed the servants with the edge of the sword; and I alone have escaped to tell you!**"

16 **While he was still speaking**, another also came and said, "The fire of God fell from heaven and burned up the sheep and the servants, and consumed them; and I alone have escaped to tell you!"

17 **While he was still speaking**, another also came and said, "The Chaldeans formed three bands, raided the camels and took them away, yes, and killed the servants with the edge of the sword; and I alone have escaped to tell you!"

18 **While he was still speaking**, another also came and said, "Your sons and daughters were eating and drinking wine in their oldest brother's house, 19 and suddenly a great wind came from across the wilderness and struck the four corners of the house, and it fell on the young people, and they are dead; and I alone have escaped to tell you!"

20 Then Job arose, tore his robe, and shaved his head; and he fell to the ground and worshiped.

21 And he said:

"Naked I came from my mother's womb, And naked shall I return there."



Question: What is your response to your seasons of pain?

IV. Seven Tough Seasons Job Had to Suddenly Manage (Job 1-2)

1. His **family** was killed by a tornado like wind
2. His **livelihood** was attacked
3. His **health** was attacked
4. His **marriage relationship** was attacked
5. His **self-confidence** was attacked by his wife (Job 2:9-10, NKJV)
 - Then his wife said to him, “Do you still hold fast to your integrity? [\[c\]](#)Curse God and die!”
10 But he said to her, “You speak as one of the foolish women speaks. Shall we indeed accept good from God, and shall we not accept adversity?” In all this Job did not sin with his lips.
6. His **friendships** were attacked
7. His **dreams** for the future were attacked

Conclusion:

V. Job’s Season of Deliverance (Things Can Get Better) Job 42:12–17 (NKJV)

12 Now **the Lord blessed the latter days of Job more than his beginning**; for he had fourteen thousand sheep, six thousand camels, one thousand yoke of oxen, and one thousand female donkeys. 13 He also had seven sons and three daughters. 14 And he called the name of the first Jemimah, the name of the second Keziah, and the name of the third Keren-Happuch. 15 **In all the land were found no women so beautiful as the daughters of Job**; and **their father gave them an inheritance among their brothers.**

16 **After this Job lived one hundred and forty years, and saw his children and grandchildren for four generations.** 17 So Job died, old and full of days.

Note: He outlived his seasons of challenge.

Next Time: The Liberating Power of the Truth

Big Question: Why is it hard to hear the truth? (It can be embarrassing, painful, liberating and confusing)

Read Ahead: John 8:32; John 4:1-25