

## DAILY BIBLE STUDY SHEET

*Daily meditation on the Word of God is imperative to our growth. As the people of God, we should commit to reading Scripture every day. These are questions to help prompt your meditation. If you do not have a Bible, please contact the church office and one will be given to you. To locate the passages, use the Table of Contents to find the page number. The number before the colon will tell you the chapter to find. The numbers after the colon are the superscript numbers in your Bible indicating the verses to read.*

### **Monday, Oct 23<sup>rd</sup> – Job 22**

This week we will study Round 3, the final round of arguments between Job and his friends. We will only hear from Eliphaz and Bildad. Zophar remains silent. Maybe a good thing. So let's begin with Eliphaz's retort to Job. How does Eliphaz begin his speech (vss. 1-3)? What is the point of these rhetorical questions (vss. 4-5)? How does Eliphaz support his supposition in verses 4-5 (vss. 6-11)? Why do these things trap the wicked (vss. 12-14)? We fall into this trap today, don't we? We sin making excuses and thinking God doesn't see or care. We understand this logic and know that in some cases, this is a true assessment. Beginning in verse 15, Eliphaz returns to the "wisdom of old" defense of his position. What does Eliphaz say this wisdom teaches (vss. 15-20)? But wait, Eliphaz also has the answer as to what will fix the situation. What is Eliphaz's solution (vss. 21-30)? Do you agree in general with what Eliphaz says? Is he completely wrong in general? Is he wrong in the case of Job? Nothing Eliphaz says is incorrect, but it does not work in this case. What would have been a better thing for Eliphaz to do rather than to continue in this argument? What points about God does Eliphaz make that reveals God and his power to us? What points about humanity does Eliphaz make? Why do you think Jesus is so important in the midst of these revelations? Where are you in this story?

### **Tuesday, Oct. 24<sup>th</sup> – Job 23**

Today we read the first part of Job's response to Eliphaz. Job starts out by expressing where he is at the beginning of this response. What is Job's condition (vs. 2)? What, in Job's mind, would bring relief to Job (vss. 3-7)? Why is there no relief (vss. 8-9)? Verses 10-12 are Job's counter to Eliphaz's argument. What does Job declare in these verses? So, if this is true, what's the problem (vss. 13-17)? Imagine being in Job's shoes. Where do we see Job's faithfulness in this chapter? Where do we see the questioning? Have you ever felt like Job? What does this tell us about life sometimes? Have you ever searched for God and couldn't seem to find Him? What did you have to rely on to get you through those times? Spend some time in prayer seeking a deeper faith with God and understanding that deeper faith means sometimes believing and staying the course even when we do not "feel" God or "sense" God's presence. This deep faith of Job takes practice. Be willing to do so.

### **Wednesday, Oct. 25<sup>th</sup> – Job 24**

We will finish Job's response to Eliphaz today. Before we begin, go back and read Job 22:15-20. This is what Eliphaz's wisdom says about the wicked. All of chapter 24 is Job's rebuttal against these verses. Job begins by asking what question (vs. 1)? How does this contradict Eliphaz's statements right off the bat? In verses 1-17, we see Job's support for his second question. What is Job's point through all these examples? After listing all these things, Job focuses on God's response (vss. 18-23). These statements sound just like Eliphaz's statements. But there is one difference and that is in verse 24. What point does Job make in this statement? Is there any difference between the wicked and the righteous in the way God deals with each group? In other words, can the points in verses 18-23 be applied to wicked and righteous alike sometimes? Job's speech ends with a challenge. What does Job ask his friends (vs. 25)? Do you see Job's point? Do you agree with him? Did you agree with Eliphaz? How can both be correct or both be wrong? When you see someone homeless or hear of a criminal being shot or brought to justice, do you discern in your heart that they are receiving the due payment for their sins? If the drug addict dies of an overdose, is it not cause and effect? This is what makes the Book of Job so relevant to us today, because we are faced with the same two sides of the coin. Both arguments have truth in them. But circumstances behind the situation are what determines what is correct. And we must remember that we don't always know the back stories. How do we apply this to our own lives going forward? What would God expect of us? What have you learned about yourself in this reading? Spend time in prayer asking God for wisdom, so you can understand more deeply.

### **Thursday, Oct. 26<sup>th</sup> – Job 25**

Now we turn to Bildad's third speech to Job. This is a really short speech. It is only 6 verses long. He starts with a declaration about God. What does he say (vs. 2)? Is he correct? What follows is a series of questions and then a statement about God and a statement about humans. As you read these verses (3-6), do you sense any argument here? Many scholars believe that Bildad just ran out of steam and is unable to articulate his point any further, because of Job's last two responses (Chapter 21 and 24). What does this reveal to us about Bildad's whole argument? What kind of confusion did it bring? Have you ever felt like Bildad, doubting what you have believed to the point that you could no longer articulate it? Or you no longer wanted to articulate it? How could this position bring one to a place of repentance? How could this lead to a deeper understanding of God? How might God use this to deepen Bildad's walk with God? What do you think about all of this? Where might God be stirring the same things up in you? How does reading God's Word help align your choices, understandings and life to His will? Spend some time in prayer today, asking God to show you where you might have it wrong, so that you can have a deeper wisdom than you have now.

### **Friday, Oct. 27<sup>th</sup> – Job 26**

We close this week out looking at Job's response to Bildad. This will prepare us for Job's final speech next week. After hearing the six statements from Bildad, what comments does Job make (vss. 1-4)? In verse 4, notice that Job questions the "spirit" or "where the breath" came from that helped him utter those words. There is the insinuation that they may not be from God. In verses 5-13, Job declares the omnipresence (he is everywhere and every-when!) and the power of God. Note in verse 12, some translations use the name Rahab. This is not the woman from Moses' time, but rather a sea monster. What point does Job make in all these statements about God? He wraps up his response and prepares his final speech with one question. What does he ask (vs. 13)? Consider how this question rebukes what Bildad has said. Now ponder how this question might lead into more points by Job. Verse 13 is considered a transition verse, in that it closes one section while launching the next. At this point we have finished all the arguments and defenses between Job and his friends. Take some time today and consider the points that have been made. What do you remember about Eliphaz, Bildad and Zophar? What does exacting justice mean? What grounds have they argued with Job? What is their analysis of Job's fate? How did Job respond? Where was his hope? Where did his faith show up? What argument did he use to blow holes in his friends' positions? Consider what you have learned about God through these readings. What have you learned about humans? Where have you encountered Jesus?

### **Saturday, Oct. 28<sup>th</sup> – In preparation for tomorrow's worship, please read Job 28:23-28.**