

## 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. There 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, Sept. 25<sup>th</sup> – Job 8**

This week we begin with Bildad's speech. It is a reaction to what Job had said to Eliphaz. In what style does Bildad start off (vs. 2)? Notice the niceties of Eliphaz are not present here. Read verses 3-7. What are Bildad's ideas about God and suffering? Whose fault is it (vs. 4)? What is needed to fix it (vs. 7)? So, on what basis does Bildad build these assumptions on God and suffering (vss. 8-10)? In verses 11-12, Bildad uses a metaphor. Who is Job (or humans) in the metaphor? What represents God? What is the point of this metaphor (vs. 13)? Verses 14-19 develop and describe verse 13. What happens to those who are godless? What do they do wrong and what are the results? Verses 20-22 are Bildad's solution and resolution offered to Job. What do these verses say? I might suggest underlining verse 22, as I will refer to it towards the end of Job. How much of Bildad's understanding of suffering and God do you agree with? Where do you disagree? Why doesn't this theodicy work? (Listen to the first sermon "Testing" on the webpage.) What does this reveal about your understanding of God? What does this reveal about us as humans? Do you see how this argument might have been used regarding Jesus?

### **Tuesday, Sept. 26<sup>th</sup> – Job 9:1-20**

Now we turn to Job's response to Bildad. How does Job begin his response (vss. 1-4)? According to Job, how can he go to court with God? Can Job or anyone win? What is the basis for Job's conclusion that he cannot face God in court (vss. 5-13)? Do you agree with Job's argument? So, if Job is correct, where does that leave him (vss. 14-15)? What additional rationale does Job use to support his claim (vss. 16-19)? Verse 20 is the summation statement of Job's point thus far. Go back to chapters 1 and 2. Who is the one who calls Job by these descriptions? We know Job is correct in that God has labeled him as blameless and one with integrity. So, Job doesn't really need to defend himself against God. But when we don't know the background, we (as a friend or even the sufferer) fill one in. How do you think this helps our suffering? How do you think this makes our suffering worse? What does this reveal about God? What does this reveal about us? Where do you see Jesus in this concept of standing before God in court? Pray today asking God to give you eyes that see, ears that hear, and a heart that is transformed by this reading.

### **Wednesday, Sept. 27<sup>th</sup> – Job 9:21-35**

Now we will finish Job's response to Bildad. It is a lament based on Bildad's suppositions and Job's response thus far. What is the declaration that Job makes (vs. 21)? Why does Job feel this way (vss. 22-24)? Do you agree with Job's position regarding God? What would you think if you were in Job's place? We see a shift in Job's attitude as we read verses 25-31. Rather than lament, it almost sounds like what (vs. 29)? As we move forward, what does Job believe is his only hope (vss. 32-33)? How would having a mediator help Job (vss. 34-35)? Where has Job's suffering left him spiritually? Have you ever been that low, so low that you didn't think you could speak to God any longer? Do you know someone who has or is suffering who feels this way? How might you be a comfort and an encourager in such times? Consider what you might say. The fact that Job can say these things honestly reveals what about God? Has Job sinned by saying any of these things? Is Job being truthful? What does this reveal about us? And finally, where do you see Jesus in these words?

### **Thursday, Sept. 28<sup>th</sup> – Job 10:1-12**

Today we start chapter 10 which is Job's second address to God. As you read verse 1, what type of address is this going to be? Now read verses 2-6. What are Job's complaints? Verse 7 seems to be Job's chief complaint. What is it? Verses 8-12 speak to God's gentle creation of Job. We discussed in week one when Job was written. Here is one of the texts used to point to David or Solomon's time. These reflect the words of Psalm 139. But no sooner does Job state that his life exists because of God's care, he changes up the lament and expresses what it feels like now. Notice in verse 8, while Job gives credit to God about creating him, Job also states that God is now out to destroy him. The plea to God is for God to do what (vs. 9)? Why do you think Job wants God to remember these things in verses 9-12? If God remembers, what do you think Job will have accomplished? Do you think God forgets that we are created out of God's love? Yet suffering can appear to us as if God has forgotten or abandoned us. What do we know about God from Genesis and Job 1 and 2 that can help us not feel like we are abandoned in times of suffering? What does this reveal about you today? What does it reveal about God? Where does Jesus fit into this (think about creation)? Pray asking God to instill deep within you the certainty that no matter how bad things get, you will never think of yourself as abandoned or forgotten.

### **Friday, Sept. 29<sup>th</sup> – Job 10:13-22**

We close this week with Job's final pleas to God. After asking God to remember creating Job, Job now has a change in his lament. What are Job's feelings (vss. 13-17)? Do you feel like Job sometimes, that if you sin, God will be out to get you? We may know better, but when faced with deep sorrow and suffering, consider that these thoughts might be something you would say. Suffering at times does feel like God has rejected us, because of how we understand love. Sometimes we don't even consider that God has nothing to do with our suffering and is present and walking through it with us, instead of just removing the suffering. Verses 17-19 return to what questions? What request does Job make in verses 20-22? Sheol is described as a place of darkness. It seems as though there is separation from God and all the living, yet there is a consciousness. If there were not, then there would be no confusion. Job is in a very dark place, himself thinking this way. What does this tell us about Job's suffering? What have you learned from Job this week? What have you learned about God and your understanding about God? Where have you thought about Jesus this week in these texts? What might you need to pray about, asking God for guidance and wisdom in order to understand and apply what he reveals to you in your life?

### **Saturday, Sept 30<sup>th</sup> – In preparation for tomorrow's worship, please read 1 Corinthians 11:17-25.**