



UNIT 3 | SESSION 4

# THE SUFFERING OF JOB

## JOB



**CHRIST CONNECTION:** God is all-powerful and good. When we face hard times, we can trust God. God sent Jesus to die on the cross and rescue people from sin.

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:** Who is in control? God is in control.

**KEY PASSAGE:** God can make bad things good. Genesis 50:20

**STORY POINT:** God is always good.



## PREPARE

### PRIOR TO TEACHING THE SESSION

## LEADER Bible Study

Job's story is an impactful story on human suffering and God's sovereign goodness that transcends any circumstance. The book of Job shares of a God-fearing, virtuous man who continually turned from evil. Though he was not sinless, Job was counted righteous by his faith in God until the end.

How does Job respond when unexpected suffering comes to him? How does Job's story encourage us in our own suffering?

In the beginning of Job, we see an interaction between Satan and God, in which the Creator allows Satan to test Job to see if he would continue to follow God amidst suffering. Job would lose his sheep, camels, servants, and children. In response to this loss, Job worshiped God and refused to blame Him. Next, Job would become afflicted by painful boils. Despite Job's tragic sufferings, he refused to speak ill of God, even when his own wife told him to give up his faith.

In the following chapters, Job wrestled with his experiences in suffering, as his three friends tried in vain to comfort and help him in his pain. They could not fathom that Job's suffering did not result from sin. However, another voice, that of Elihu, spoke into Job's circumstances with true wisdom: God is greater than man, holy, and just; only He is righteous and sinless.

God met Job amidst his questions, reminding him of man's place within His created universe. Though people are unworthy of God's goodness, the Creator delights in showcasing His glory to the ones He has made. After Job prayed for his friends, his fortune was not only restored, but it was doubled.

Although God allowed Job to suffer, His hand was there to guide him, and His comfort remained by his side. What we glean from Job's story is that God's righteousness is so much greater than our own, that He is worthy of worship despite our circumstances. In 2 Corinthians 4:17, Paul declared that "our momentary light affliction is producing for us an absolutely incomparable eternal weight of glory."

There is only one truly righteous person who suffered unjustly: Jesus Christ, the Son of God. Help preschoolers see that God is good, and His full worthiness is displayed in Jesus, the only truly righteous One. By faith in His finished work on the cross, we are counted as righteous and granted eternal hope. Pray for the children in your group to experience God's goodness and place their faith in Him alone.



## PREPARE

### THE WEEK PRIOR

Prepare your heart to teach; plan the session



## WELCOME

### 10–15 MINUTES

Greet preschoolers and open the session



## LEARN

### 25–30 MINUTES

Teach preschoolers the story of the gospel



## LOVE

Lead preschoolers to love the God of the gospel

30–40 MINUTES



## LIVE

Lead preschoolers to live the mission of the gospel



## BONUS

### 60–65 MINUTES

Teach preschoolers for an additional hour



## PREPARE

PRIOR TO TEACHING THE SESSION

## GATHER Supplies

Keep a supply of the following items available during all teaching sessions: Allergy Alert, Bibles, washable markers, crayons, scissors (adult use), blunt-tipped scissors, construction paper, copy paper, glue sticks, glue, tape, baby dolls, blocks, play dough, and a beanbag.



### WELCOME

#### Guess the item

- ☐ Big Picture Question Poster
- ☐ small brown paper bag
- ☐ self-adhesive bandage



### LEARN

#### Introduce the Bible story

- ☐ self-adhesive bandages, 1 per child

#### Tell the Bible story

- ☐ "The Suffering of Job" video (optional)

#### Review the Bible story

- ☐ Bible Story Picture Poster
- ☐ sticky notes, 1 per child

#### Learn and practice the key passage phrase

- ☐ Key Passage Phrase Marker



### LOVE

#### Play with a medical kit

- ☐ medical kit
- ☐ bandages

#### Explore nature books

- ☐ nature books
- ☐ sticky notes



### LIVE

#### Create a sensory bottle

- ☐ small empty water bottles, 1 per child
- ☐ clear corn syrup
- ☐ glitter
- ☐ blue food color
- ☐ art smocks
- ☐ funnel
- ☐ "Key passage Phrase Label" printable

#### Missions activity

- ☐ "William and Crystal Enete Photos" printable

#### Snack and transition

- ☐ hand sanitizer (optional)
- ☐ "Trace the Heart" activity page, 1 per child
- ☐ Big Picture Cards for Families



### BONUS

#### Play with a barn and animals

- ☐ toy barn
- ☐ farm animal figures

#### Create a nighttime sky

- ☐ star stickers
- ☐ white crayons, 1 per child



## WELCOME Preschoolers

Provide as many learning activities as possible from the Love and Live sections to give preschoolers choices to learn. Incorporate the Bible story, the Christ connection, and key passage phrase in your conversations as the preschoolers engage in learning activities throughout the session.

Use the following activity to greet children as they enter the classroom. Talk about the big picture question and answer. After each child completes the welcome activity, encourage him to participate in the activities provided from the Love and Live sections of the leader guide.

### GUESS THE ITEM

Post the Big Picture Question and Answer Poster near the entrance to the classroom. Place a small self-adhesive bandage in the bag. Greet preschoolers as they enter the classroom and point out the Big Picture Question and Answer Poster. Shake the bag. Encourage preschoolers to feel what is inside the bag and guess what it is. Give clues as needed.

**SAY** Welcome to church today. I am so glad that you are here. There is something in this bag that reminds me of our story. Feel what is inside. Can you guess what it is? We can use it to cover a hurt place. It is a bandage. Job was a good man who loved God. God's enemy, Satan, caused Job to have painful sores all over his body. Job faced hard times, but He trusted God. He knew that **God is in control.**

Worship

\* Me and My House

\* Light of the world

Transition from **WELCOME** to **LEARN**







LEARN

## THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

### LEARN the Bible Story

#### 1 INTRODUCE THE BIBLE STORY

Invite preschoolers to join you for group time. Give each child a self-adhesive bandage as she comes to group time. Encourage her to place it somewhere on her body. Assist preschoolers as needed.

**SAY** “We use bandages when we are hurt. Job was a good man who loved God. Some very sad things happened to Job, including getting sores on his body. Even when sad things happened, Job learned **GOD IS ALWAYS GOOD.**”



#### 2 TELL THE BIBLE STORY Video

Open your Bible to Job. Tell the following Bible story using the provided storytelling points. You may choose to review the Bible story by showing the video.

#### THE SUFFERING OF JOB

**SAY** “Job was a good man who loved God. He had a big family and lots of animals. One day, Satan, came to God. God said, “Have you seen Job? He is a good man who loves Me.”

Satan said, “If you take away all Job has, he will stop loving You.” Then Satan took away Job’s camels and sheep. Job’s family died. Job lost everything. Job was very sad, but he still loved God.

Satan went to God again. “If Job gets sick, he will stop worshiping You.” So God allowed Satan to hurt Job’s body. Satan caused Job to have painful sores all over his body!

Job’s wife said, “Why do you still love God?”

Job responded, “Should we only accept good things from God?”

Three friends came to Job. They thought that Job was being punished for his sin.

“I haven’t done anything wrong!” Job said. Why would God let these things happen?

Another man, Elihu (ih LIGH hyoo), came to Job. He said, “God always does what is right.”

At last, God spoke to Job in a wind. “Were you there when I made the earth?” God asked. “Can you make the stars move or the lightning flash? Do you feed all the animals?”

God showed Job that He is strong and mighty and good. Job was sorry for not believing God. God gave Job back everything he had lost and so much more.”

Christ Connection: God is all-powerful and good. When we face hard times, we can trust God. God sent Jesus to die on the cross and rescue people from sin.



### 3 REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY



Display and cover the Bible Story Picture Poster with sticky notes. You may need to cut the sticky notes into smaller notes, depending on the number of preschoolers. You should have enough notes for each preschooler to remove one. Invite each preschooler to remove a note and describe what he sees in that part of the picture.

**SAY** 🗨️ When I look at this picture, I am reminded of how powerful God is. God showed Job that He is strong and mighty and good. Job was sorry for not believing God. **GOD IS ALWAYS GOOD.** When we face hard times, we can trust God. 🗨️

### 4 SING A SONG

Sing the song to the familiar tune of "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow":

God can make bad things good.  
God can make bad things good.  
God can make bad things good.

Genesis 50:20

\* "For Good" worship song.

### 5 LEARN AND PRACTICE THE KEY PASSAGE PHRASE



Place the Key Passage Phrase Marker at Genesis 50:20. Invite a child to open your Bible to the key passage. Encourage preschoolers to say the phrase with you several times. Each time you say the phrase, leave out a word, leading children to say the missing word.

**SAY** 🗨️ God can make bad things good. Many bad things happened to Job, but God made them good. **GOD IS ALWAYS GOOD.** We can trust Him. **God is in control.** 🗨️

### 6 PRAY

Pray, thanking God for always being strong and mighty and good. Thank Him for loving us and for taking care of us each day.



LOVE

THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

## LOVE God because of what we learned

### 1 GUESS WHAT WAS REMOVED



Place three classroom items such as a crayon, a block, and a pair of scissors on the table. Encourage preschoolers to turn away from the table while you remove one of the items. Invite preschoolers to turn back around and guess what was removed. Play the game several times, alternating what you remove.

**SAY** You did a good job deciding what was taken away. Job was a good man who loved God. Satan told God, 'If you take away all Job has, he will stop loving You.' Satan took away Job's camels and sheep and family. Job lost everything. Job was very sad, but he still loved God. **GOD IS ALWAYS GOOD.** When we face hard times, we can trust God. **God is in control.**

### 2 PLAY WITH A MEDICAL KIT

Place medical kits, bandages, and dolls out for preschoolers to explore. Demonstrate how to use the medical tools and how to wrap the bandages on the dolls. Volunteer to be a patient.

**SAY** When we are hurt or sick, we go to the doctor. Job was in a lot of pain. Job was a good man who loved God. Satan said, 'If Job gets sick, he will stop worshiping God.' So, God allowed Satan to hurt Job's body. Satan caused Job to have painful sores all over his body! Job was in pain, but he still loved God. God showed Job that He is strong and mighty and good. When we face hard times, we can trust God.

### 3 EXPLORE NATURE BOOKS

Invite preschoolers to join you in looking at books with photographs and illustrations of creation. Talk about what you see in the books. Name things God has created. Suggest that preschoolers mark these pages in the books with sticky notes.

**SAY** I see so many of the things God made in these books. It is amazing to think about what God can do and how powerful He is. God spoke to Job in a wind. 'Were you there when I made the earth?' God asked. 'Can you make the stars move or the lightning flash? Do you feed all the animals?' God showed Job that He is strong and mighty and good. Job was sorry for not believing God. He knew **GOD IS ALWAYS GOOD.**

Transition from **LEARN** to **LOVE**





## THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

### LIVE for God out of love

#### 1 CREATE A SENSORY BOTTLE



Before the session, print the “Key Passage Phrase Label” printable onto adhesive address labels. Assist preschoolers with placing a smock over their clothing. Invite a preschooler to fill an empty water bottle halfway with clear corn syrup. Add glitter and a few drops of blue food color. Fill the remainder of the bottle with water, leaving a small space at the top. Glue the lid closed. Invite preschoolers to shake the bottle and watch the glitter move throughout the bottle. Add a key passage phrase label to the bottle.

**SAY** 🗣️ This bottle reminds me of the nighttime sky with all the stars. God asked Job, ‘Were you there when I made the earth? Can you make the stars move? God is all-powerful and good. Our key passage phrase says, ‘God can make bad things good.’ He did for Job and will for us too. **God is in control.** 🙏

#### 2 MISSIONS ACTIVITY



Print and display a copy of the “William and Crystal Enete Photos” printable. Tell preschoolers the Enetes traveled around Brazil and used a puppet named Sammy to teach kids about Jesus. Encourage preschoolers to play out as a group riding in cars, a ship, rowing a canoe, riding in a train, and flying in an airplane.

**SAY** 🗣️ William and his puppet named Sammy traveled by car, canoe, riverboat, train, and airplane to tell people about Jesus. Sometimes William took Sammy in a pillowcase because no suitcases were allowed on the trains. Let’s thank God for missionaries who use creative ways to tell people about Jesus. [Lead a prayer.] 🙏

#### 3 SNACK AND TRANSITION



Post an allergy alert. Serve the snack. As children eat, review and talk about the Bible story. When children finish their snack, lead them to complete the activity page. As they work, continue talking about the Bible story and emphasize the Christ connection.

**SAY** 🗣️ God is all-powerful and good. When we face hard times, we can trust God. God sent Jesus to die on the cross and rescue people from sin. 🙏

Remember to communicate helpful information to the bonus teaching hour leaders. If parents are picking up children at this time, tell them something their child did well during the session. Distribute big picture cards for families. Encourage parents to engage with the family discussion starters and family activities during the week.

Transition from **LOVE** to **LIVE**







## **BONUS** Teaching Hour Group Time

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### **1 SOUND LIKE THE WIND**

Invite preschoolers to blow air and make sounds like the wind as you gather for group time. Tell preschoolers that God spoke to Job in a wind.

### **2 TALK ABOUT THE BIBLE STORY**

Open the Bible to the book of Job. Use the summarized points below to talk about the Bible story.

#### **THE SUFFERING OF JOB**

- Job (JOHB) loved God. One day, Job lost everything he had. He got sick with sore spots all over his body. Job was very sad, but he still loved God.
- Job's friends said, "God is mad at you. That is why bad things happened." Job was tired. Had God made a mistake?
- Then God spoke to Job. God said, "Were you there when I made everything? Can you understand My plan?"
- God showed Job that He is strong and mighty and good. Job was sorry for not believing God.
- God healed Job, and Job lived a long, happy life.

### **3 SING A SONG**

Sing the song below to the tune of "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow":

God can make bad things good.  
God can make bad things good.  
God can make bad things good.  
Genesis 50:20

### **4 SAY THE KEY PASSAGE PHRASE**

Place the key passage phrase marker at Genesis 50:20. Invite a child to open your Bible to the key passage. Encourage preschoolers to turn and tell a friend the key passage phrase. Allow time for each child to have a turn if they would like.

### **5 PRAY**

Pray, thanking God that we can trust Him when we face hard times.



## BONUS Teaching Hour Activities

### 6 CUT OUT PAPER HEARTS



Cut a piece of construction paper into four pieces. Place the construction paper pieces, blunt-tipped scissors, and a marker on the table. Demonstrate for preschoolers how to fold the construction paper in half. Draw half of a heart shape along the fold in the paper. Encourage preschoolers to cut along the line and unfold to make a paper heart.

**SAY** “ You cut out a heart. Hearts remind me of love. Job was a good man who loved God. Satan took away all that Job had and caused Job to have painful sores all over his body, but Job did not stop loving God. Job’s wife asked, ‘Why do you still love God?’ Job said, ‘Should we only accept good things from God?’ God showed Job that He is strong and mighty. **GOD IS ALWAYS GOOD.** When we face hard times, we can trust God. **God is in control.** ”

### 7 PLAY WITH A BARN AND ANIMALS

Invite preschoolers to arrange the animal figures in the barn. Talk about the animals. Encourage children to sort the animals by size, color, number of legs, or sounds they make. Count how many animals you have in each group. Count how many animals there are all together.

**SAY** “ We have a lot of animals in our barn. Job had a lot of animals too. Job was a good man who loved God. He had a big family and lots of animals. Satan said, ‘If you take away all Job has, he will stop loving you.’ Satan took away Job’s camels and sheep. Job lost everything. He was very sad, but he still loved God. God showed Job that He is strong and mighty and good. God gave Job back everything he had lost and so much more. ”

### 8 CREATE A NIGHTTIME SKY

Place construction paper, star stickers, and white crayons on the table. Encourage preschoolers to create a nighttime sky picture with star stickers and white crayons.

**SAY** “ The stars in your picture remind me of what God said to Job. Job wondered why God would let all of the bad things happen to him. His friend Elihu said, ‘God always does what is right.’ Finally, God spoke to Job in a wind. ‘Were you there when I made the earth?’ God asked. ‘Can you make the stars move or the lightning flash?’ **GOD IS ALWAYS GOOD.** When we face hard times, we can trust God. **God is in control.** ”

Release preschoolers to parents according to your church’s security procedure. Tell them something that their child enjoyed doing or did well during the session.