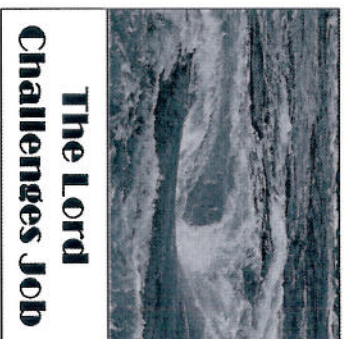


God's Story Our Story

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July 31, 2016

Devotion: Use this resource at home to guide your household's daily devotions. You can do this alone, as a couple, as a family, in the morning, during the day, or at night. Find a routine that works best for you.

Pray: Light a candle and open your devotion time with a prayer.

Long suffering God, your ears are always open to your children. We implore you to hear us with patience and correct us with compassion, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Reflect: Reflect on the key verses from Sunday's reading.

"Can you draw out Leviathan with a fishhook, or press down its tongue with a cord? Can you put a rope in its nose, or pierce its jaw with a hook?" Job 41:1-2

Study: Study the reading and consider the background.

Job's journey has been long and wearying. He begins to see the whole of it from his limited perspective, and is led to repent for his impulsive words.

Read: Read the following daily readings to deepen your understanding of Sunday's text. After the reading, ask the follow-up questions.

Sunday, Job 38:25-27; 41:1-8; 42:1-6, *The Lord Challenges Job*

Monday, Job 29-30, *Job's Defense*

Tuesday, Job 31, *Job's Defense*

Wednesday, Job 32, *Elihu Rebukes Job's Friends*

Thursday, Job 33, *Elihu Rebukes Job*

Friday, Job 34, *Elihu Proclaims God's Justice*

Saturday, Job 35, *Elihu Condemns Self-Righteousness*

What does Elihu say about the question of suffering?

Connect: Connect in conversation with others in your household. Discuss the following questions, or simply check in with "Highs" and "Lows."

What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?

What do you think about God's response to Job? Is God's response or attitude consistent with what you know about God?

Tell a story of a time you were humbled by God's response to your prayers.

Do: By acting on what we learn we make God's word come alive. Do the following activity this week.

Watch the news each night this week. Write down two or three stories that seem too big for humanity to fix or heal. Pray for those situations, that God will intervene where humans are too small.

Bless: Close your devotion with a blessing.

May God remind you that, although you are small, God is big. Amen.