**houseChurch Material**

*Series, Cross Reference: Finding Jesus in the Old Testament*

**Jesus, the Innocent Sufferer**

Job 1:8-22

* **Have multiple persons to read the passage from 2 or more translations.**
* **Consider using the “Picture It!” Method.**
* **﻿Reflect between each reading.**

Job 1:8-22

8 Then the Lord said to Satan, “Have you considered my servant Job? There is no one on earth like him; he is blameless and upright, a man who fears God and shuns evil.”

9 “Does Job fear God for nothing?” Satan replied. 10 “Have you not put a hedge around him and his household and everything he has? You have blessed the work of his hands, so that his flocks and herds are spread throughout the land. 11 But now stretch out your hand and strike everything he has, and he will surely curse you to your face.”

12 The Lord said to Satan, “Very well, then, everything he has is in your power, but on the man himself do not lay a finger.”

Then Satan went out from the presence of the Lord.

13 One day when Job’s sons and daughters were feasting and drinking wine at the oldest brother’s house, 14 a messenger came to Job and said, “The oxen were plowing and the donkeys were grazing nearby, 15 and the Sabeans attacked and made off with them. They put the servants to the sword, and I am the only one who has escaped to tell you!”

16 While he was still speaking, another messenger came and said, “The fire of God fell from the heavens and burned up the sheep and the servants, and I am the only one who has escaped to tell you!”

17 While he was still speaking, another messenger came and said, “The Chaldeans formed three raiding parties and swept down on your camels and made off with them. They put the servants to the sword, and I am the only one who has escaped to tell you!”

18 While he was still speaking, yet another messenger came and said, “Your sons and daughters were feasting and drinking wine at the oldest brother’s house, 19 when suddenly a mighty wind swept in from the desert and struck the four corners of the house. It collapsed on them and they are dead, and I am the only one who has escaped to tell you!”

20 At this, Job got up and tore his robe and shaved his head. Then he fell to the ground in worship 21 and said:

“Naked I came from my mother’s womb,  and naked I will depart.[a] The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away;  may the name of the Lord be praised.”

22 In all this, Job did not sin by charging God with wrongdoing.

**Application**

1. What did you hear during the reading? What did the Holy Spirit say to you?
2. What do you think and how do you feel about what the Holy Spirit said? How do you feel comforted, convicted and challenged from the reading?
3. What does the Holy Spirit want you to do now?
4. Share any of the above discoveries with your houseChurch. Ask each other, “What is your nugget?”

**Discussion Questions**

1. How do you feel about Job’s suffering? Can you relate to his experience?
2. According to verses 9-11, what is Satan’s accusing God of with respect to Job’s reason for worshipping Him? Is Satan saying, “God, Job doesn’t worship you for WHO you are! He worships you for the blessings he gets from you!”? Why does Satan accuse God of this? What is his motivation?
3. Why does God allow Satan to cause suffering in Job’s life in verse 12? How do you suppose God was feeling about His decision? Does God appear to be sovereign and in control, or does He come across as a helpless king?
4. Take a closer look at Job 1:20-22. What is Job’s reason for worshipping God? Does he worship Him for who He is for for the blessings he gets from Him?
5. Discuss the statement: “The only way you’re ever going to learn to worship God for who he is in himself is through **SUFFERING**.”
6. Reflect on this observation by Tim Keller, “When Job suffered, he was only relatively innocent, but Jesus Christ was the true Job, the true absolutely innocent sufferer. When Job felt he was abandoned by God, he wasn’t really, at the end of the book. But Jesus was truly abandoned by God. In fact, Jesus is the only person in history whom God said to, “If you obey me fully, I’ll cause you to suffer you send you to hell. I’ll turn my back on you, and you will experience absolute separation from the glory and face of the Father.”

Now talk to Jesus...