

# JOB 15-20

## WEEK IN REVIEW + FAMILY GUIDE

### WEEK IN REVIEW

We get to hear from all of Job's friends once again, starting with Eliphaz' second response to Job. This time around, while he does share some truth, Eliphaz' knowledge is **worldly**. Worldly knowledge is based on ideas of the world we live in, not based on our understanding of God and His Word. It does not offer Job any comfort, because Job's perspective is not worldly. Job sees his situation with a lens of faith! Job then responds and criticizes his friends calling them "miserable comforters" (16:2). At this point, it's no surprise that Job is frustrated. He has not only gone through suffering from Satan, but now even his friends won't listen to him. They continue to blame Job for his circumstances. A better response as Job's friend would have been to approach him with **compassion**, which is a feeling of empathy. Since Job's friends couldn't understand his suffering, choosing to offer compassion instead of answers would have been more helpful!

When Bildad speaks next, he does so with **misunderstanding**. Job's friends have each not been able to wrap their minds around the reality of Job's situation. His misunderstanding, however, leads him to falsely accuse Job of "rejecting" God (18:21). This only leads Job to even more suffering and pain. A lesson we can learn from Job's friends here is that we don't always know what our friends are truly going through. When Job responds to Bildad, he asks why his friends continue to crush him with their words (19:2). Remember, your words are powerful! Job then professes his faith as he says, "I know that my **Redeemer** lives" (19:25). A redeemer is someone who recovers and saves others. For Christians, our Redeemer is Jesus Christ! When Job proclaims this, he is faithfully stating that he trusts God is alive and working. It is so important that we remember that no matter what hardships we may face, God is always at work for the good of those who love Him! (Romans 8:28)

Lastly, Zophar speaks and his message is clear. Zophar tells Job that the joy and triumph of those who are wicked is temporary (20:4-5). Zophar goes on to talk about how suffering and bad things happen to only those who are wicked. Once again, he is implying that Job's sorrow is the result of his sin. Not only do we know that Job's trouble is not due to his sin, and we also know that even as believers, we will face hard times. We are not promised that faith in God will give us a life without hurting. However, we are promised that through our hurting, God will always be near, just like He is for Job!

## FAMILY GUIDE

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| <b>BIG IDEA:</b>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• In hard times, we can have faith that God is our Redeemer!</li></ul>   |
| <b>KEY STORIES:</b>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Eliphaz's Speech &amp; Job's Response</li><li>• Bildad's Speech &amp; Job's Response</li><li>• Job Declares God as his Redeemer</li><li>• Zophar's Response</li></ul>  |
| <b>KEY VERSES:</b>    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Job 16:21</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ “I need someone to mediate between God and me, as a person mediates between friends.”</li></ul></li><li>• <b>Job 19:21</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ “Have mercy on me, my friends, have mercy, for the hand of God has struck me.”</li></ul></li><li>• <b>Job 19:25</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>◦ “But as for me, I know that my Redeemer lives, and he will stand upon the Earth at last.”</li></ul></li></ul>   |
| <b>WORDS TO KNOW:</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Worldly</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Concerned with the temporary, material things of the world; not spiritual</li></ul></li><li>• <b>Compassion</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ A feeling of empathy that moves us to do acts of kindness for others</li></ul></li><li>• <b>Misunderstanding</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Failure to comprehend, often resulting in miscommunication</li></ul></li><li>• <b>Redeemer</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Someone who recovers and saves others. For Christians, God is ours!</li></ul></li></ul> |

## Reflection Questions

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| 1. | Think about how Job's friends have treated him. What are some ways his friends could choose to show compassion instead? |
| 2. | As we learned, even as believers we will face hard times and pain. What are some practical ways we can lean on God?     |
| 3. | What does it mean to you that God is your Redeemer?   |