

# JOB 27-32

## WEEK IN REVIEW + FAMILY GUIDE

### WEEK IN REVIEW

In this week's reading, Job is no longer talking to his friends. We first see Job continue to stand in his innocence. Job has faced so much suffering and heard so much bad advice from his friends, and Job did not choose to fall into the sin of believing the lies and turn away from God. Job tells his friends that they have said to him "useless things," even though they have heard him testify that he is not guilty over and over. Job then moves on to talking about the value of **wisdom**. Wisdom is finding out what you should do and doing it. To Job, wisdom cannot be found, nor can it be bought, because it is not of the world. Wisdom can only be found through God! God says, "fear of the Lord is true wisdom," which means that if we want to become wise, we must have a right relationship with the Father!

Job reflected on his former blessings where he "lived like a king" and he "comforted those who mourned" (29:25). The years of Job's life before his suffering seem to have been **blissful**; full of joy and happiness. Job described himself as honest, just, righteous, and servant-hearted. Most importantly, Job says that in his home, God's friendship was felt. Think about how much it must have meant for Job to feel God's love and friendship! God as your best friend is such a gift, and because of Jesus, we get to choose to have God as our best friend too! Now, remember Job's suffering. Not only did Job feel like God was distant, but his best friends too. Job speaks about his **anguish**, which means severe suffering and pain. Job is longing for God, crying out to Him, but cannot hear any response from God. Job reflects on all of his actions and remains sure that he did not sin. He did not refuse to help the poor, he did not lust, he did not turn away those in need, nor did he wish evil for anyone. Job lived a righteous life. His suffering was not because of his actions, they were from Satan.

In the last chapter, a new character is introduced to the story of Job. **Elihu** has been present throughout this story so far, because it is clear he has been listening to the back and forth conversation between Job and his friends. Elihu is angry when his speech begins. He claims that Job is refusing to admit that he has sinned, and that Job's friends were unable to actually answer Job's questions. Elihu has made it clear that he needs to say what is on his mind, and in next week's reading, we will get to hear Elihu's argument against the ways that Job has defended his innocence.

## FAMILY GUIDE

<b>BIG IDEA:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• True wisdom comes from God!</li></ul>
<b>KEY STORIES:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Job's Speech about Wisdom</li><li>• Job Reflects on his Blessings</li><li>• Job Reflects on his Anguish</li><li>• Elihu is introduced</li></ul>
<b>KEY VERSES:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Job 28:23</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ "God alone understands the way to wisdom; he knows where it can be found."</li></ul></li><li>• <b>Job 29:4</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ "When I was in my prime, God's friendship was felt in my home."</li></ul></li><li>• <b>Job 31:6</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ "Let God weigh me on the scales of justice, for he knows my integrity."</li></ul></li></ul>
<b>WORDS TO KNOW:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Wisdom</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Finding out what you should do and doing it</li></ul></li><li>• <b>Blissful</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Full of joy and happiness</li></ul></li><li>• <b>Anguish</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Severe suffering and pain</li></ul></li><li>• <b>Elihu</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ A man who was critical of both Job and his friends</li></ul></li></ul>

## Reflection Questions

<b>1.</b>	What can we learn here about the meaning and importance of wisdom?
<b>2.</b>	What does it mean that "fear of the Lord is true wisdom?"
<b>3.</b>	Job said he could feel the friendship of God. When have you felt God's friendship in your life? What does it mean to you that God can be your friend?