

JOB 9-14

WEEK IN REVIEW + FAMILY GUIDE

WEEK IN REVIEW

This week we see Job wrestling with his grief and confusion about God. What we can learn from these chapters is that we cannot fully understand God, and that is okay! Job says that "God is so wise and so mighty." Our God is more powerful and more loving than we can wrap our minds around! Job is feeling **bitter** about his life, which means that he is angry and hurting because he feels like what experiencing is unfair. It is okay to feel hurt, but remember, the way we feel about God doesn't change His character! Even though Job is upset at God, it does not mean that God is no longer good. Our doubting or our confusion about why hard things happen in our life is not a sign that God is no longer in control. It is an opportunity for us to grow in our faith! Job says in chapter 10, "You gave me life and showed me your unfailing love." What a great reminder, even in a hard time!

Zophar responds to Job, and his response is **harsh**. This means his response is unpleasant, cruel, and severe. Zophar told Job that he has sinned and that this must be the reason for his suffering. Zophar even tells Job that he deserves worse punishment than he has already received- ouch! When Job responds to Zophar, he expresses that all of his friends are limited in their wisdom, but that in God "true wisdom and power are found" (12:13). When we are able to surrender our desire for control and acknowledge that God is the one who is in charge and understands all, we can have faith- even in suffering. Just like Job!

There are two places in this week's reading that foreshadow the coming of Jesus and the new life we receive when we place our faith in Him! The first is in Job 9, when Job wishes there was a **mediator** between God and us. A mediator is someone who is between two people and helps bridge the gap and solve their conflict. This is exactly what Jesus does for us! When we place our faith in Jesus, believing that He died for our sins, we are reconciled to God through His victory! Hallelujah! The second time in this passage we get a glimpse at the coming of Jesus is in chapter 14, when Job hypothetically asks "Can the dead live again? In this chapter, Job is making the point that human life is frail and short. Although it is true, our time on Earth will come to an end one day, we know that our souls will live for eternity in Heaven with God! We don't need to fear. Instead, we can have hope that suffering on Earth is temporary, and experiencing the love of God is forever! Faith in God is our source for security and comfort, not the world!

FAMILY GUIDE

BIG IDEA:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">God is the One full of wisdom and power!
KEY STORIES:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Job responds to BildadJob Frames a Plea to GodZophar's Speech & Job's ResponseJob asks God how he has SinnedJob Reflects on how Life is Temporary
KEY VERSES:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Job 10:12<ul style="list-style-type: none">“You gave me life and showed me your unfailing love. My life was preserved by your care.”Job 12:10<ul style="list-style-type: none">“For the life of every living thing is in his hand, and the breath of every human being.”Job 12:22<ul style="list-style-type: none">“He uncovers mysteries hidden in darkness; he brings light to the deepest gloom.”
WORDS TO KNOW:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Bitter<ul style="list-style-type: none">A <u>feeling</u> of anger and hurt in response to unfair treatmentHarsh<ul style="list-style-type: none">Unpleasant, Cruel, SevereMediator<ul style="list-style-type: none">Someone who goes between two people to bridge the gap and resolve conflict.

Reflection Questions

1.	When you are hurting, how do you feel about God? What do you know is true about God?
2.	What are some ways we can have faith like Job when we face suffering?
3.	What does it mean to you to think of Jesus as your Mediator to God? Think about how Jesus as our mediator brings us closer to God.