

JOB 33-38

WEEK IN REVIEW + FAMILY GUIDE

WEEK IN REVIEW

This week's reading opens with Elihu, the character we were introduced to at the end of last week, presenting his case to Job. Elihu views himself as wise and one who speaks with truth (33:3). While Elihu does a better job than Job's other friends in portraying the character of God, Elihu wrongly accuses Job. Elihu says that Job called himself innocent, with no sin, pure, and with no guilt. However, Job did not claim these things! Job's actions, such as him offering sacrifices to the Lord, shows that Job knew he was not pure or made right on his own. Although Elihu inaccurately accuses Job, Elihu does speak correctly about God! He says that God does not sin, twist justice, and hears the cries of the needy.

There was something special towards the end of chapter 33, did you catch it? Elihu spoke a **prophecy** about Jesus! Prophecy is proclaiming God's word for both the present and the future. Elihu speaks about a messenger that will rescue from the grave, interceding on our behalf, graciously filling our lives with the light! This is what Jesus did for us. God's plan to save the world was always there, long before Jesus was ever born!

As Elihu continues to challenge Job, he reminds Job of God's power. Imagine a storm... a big one with thunder, lightning, rain, tornados. Storms are huge and we know that we have no control over the storms that we experience. Elihu uses a storm as **imagery** to describe the power of God! He makes points such as how God's voice is a glorious thunder (37:5), that God sends ice with his breath alone (37:10), and that God causes the lightning to flash (37:15). When we remember the great power of a storm, we can see just how much greater our God is! Verse 23 says, "we cannot imagine the power of the Almighty; but even though he is just and righteous, he does not destroy us." We make mistakes and we sin, and yet even though God has the power to destroy all that is evil, God chose to love us instead!

In Job 38, we see God speak to Job! God makes his power clear to Job through a series of questions. God asks Job: Were you there when I laid the foundations of the world? Can you make the day begin? Can you direct the stars? These questions all achieve one purpose: they communicate the power and sovereignty of God! We ourselves cannot do any of the great acts that God can. When God reminds Job of this, we can read it as an invitation to surrender the control of our lives back to God!

FAMILY GUIDE

BIG IDEA:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● God is powerful over all things!
KEY STORIES:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Elihu Presenting his Case to Job● Elihu Speaking about the Power and Justice of God● The Imagery of the Storm● The Lord Challenging Job
KEY VERSES:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Job 33:28<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ “God rescued me from the grave, and now my life is filled with the light!”● Job 36:16<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ “God is leading you away from danger, Job, to a place free from distress. He is setting your table with the best food.”● Job 37:5<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ “God’s voice is glorious in the thunder. We can’t even imagine the greatness of his power.”● Job 38:4<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ “Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth? Tell me, if you know so much.”
WORDS TO KNOW:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Prophecy<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Proclaiming God’s word for both the present and the future.● Imagery<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ A literary device that uses descriptive language to create images that help us understand

Reflection Questions

1.	Why do you think a storm is good imagery for the power of God?
2.	In chapter 38, God asks Job so many questions. Why do you think God chose to ask questions instead of just providing the answers?
3.	What does it mean to you that God rescues us from the grave?