



SERMON STUDY

GUIDE

Small Group Guide: Titus 3.9-15

Open with Prayer

Discussion Questions:

1. **Icebreaker on Trials:** The sermon says we're either coming out of a trial, about to enter one, or in one right now. Share where you are and what you are learning. How does knowing trials are normal help you? (See Job 1.1)
2. **Job's Blessed Life:** Job had a great life with faith, family, and riches (Job 1.1-5). Why do you think God let us see this before showing Job's losses?
3. **God's "Sudden" Moments:** The sermon lists Bible stories of good "sudden" changes, like the walls of Jericho falling (Joshua 6.20) or Jesus calming the storm (Mark 4.39). Which of these stories stands out to you? Share a time when God did something "sudden" and good in your life.
4. **Handling Sudden Losses:** Job lost everything quickly—his stuff, workers, and kids (Job 1.13-19). How do you think you'd react if something like that happened to you? What does Job's story teach us about dealing with sudden bad news?
5. **Job's Worship Response:** After his losses, Job tore his clothes, shaved his head, and worshiped God (Job 1.20-21). He said, "The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord." Why do you think Job could worship in such pain? How does trusting God's control (like in Job 1.12) make a difference?
6. **Applying It This Week:** The sermon ends by encouraging us to worship like Job and remember that trials prepare us for heaven's glory (2 Corinthians 4.17). What's one way you can thank God this week, even if things are hard? How can thinking about Jesus' suffering during communion help you trust God more?

Key Takeaways:

1. **Trials Are Normal – Expect Them and Thank God Anyway:** Life always has hard times; you're either in one, leaving one, or about to face one (Job 1.1). Like Job, we can choose to give thanks to God even when things fall apart suddenly, remembering that He is good and in control.
2. **Trust God's Sovereignty in Suffering:** God sets limits on our pain and is never surprised by it (Job 1.12). Job's story shows that even in deep loss, we can trust that God is wise, close, and working everything for our good...even turning storms into something redemptive.
3. **Worship Like Job in the Midst of Pain:** After losing everything, Job worshiped God and blessed His name (Job 1.20-21). This week, follow his example: Humbly thank God for what He gives and takes, knowing our trials prepare us for eternal glory (2 Corinthians 4.17). Let Jesus' suffering and finished work be a reminder that God always has a greater plan than your present pain.

Practical Applications:

1. **Giving Thanks When Life Falls Apart:** Name Your Trials and Give Thanks Daily: Each morning, list one current trial (like Job's sudden losses in Job 1.13-19) and thank God for something good in it, even if it's small. For example, like a friend who helps or a lesson learned. Use Job's words: "The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord" (Job 1.21). This builds a habit of gratitude, no matter what.
2. **Trust God's Control Through Prayer:** When worry hits, pray about God's boundaries on your suffering (like He set for Job in Job 1.12). Ask Him to show you how He's in control, maybe by reading a "sudden" Bible story like Jesus calming the storm (Mark 4.39). Do this before bed to remind yourself God is close and not surprised by your pain.
3. **Worship in Tough Moments Like Job:** When something hard happens, pause to worship – sing a song, pray on your knees, or thank God out loud (like Job did in Job 1.20). Allow God to turn your pain into preparation.

Close in Prayer