

MAIN POINT

We don't need to know everything God is doing in order to trust Him.

INTRODUCTION

When you are struggling with your feelings regarding the circumstances of life, what is something you don't want to hear about how you should handle it? Explain.

Understanding that all of us experience and handle times of sorrow differently, what is something that helps you personally deal with these moments?

There are some answers we cannot know. There are some problems that bring heartache that crush the spirit of even the most firm and faithful believer. Furthermore, each of us likes to be comforted in different ways. What is helpful for some is not helpful for others. Sin and sadness are part of life, even life in Christ, and will continue to be as long as we are in this world. Depression need not defeat us, though. Our suffering can be redeemed through Jesus Christ. As such, in our sorrow, we can acknowledge that we don't need to know everything God is doing in order to trust in Him.

DISCUSSION

> READ JOB 1:1-22.

Based on these verses, what kind of man was Job? From verse 5, what emotional weight did Job bear even in the good times?

Why is it that, even in the good times, we can tend to find ourselves fixed on troubling thoughts?

What had Satan been doing in verses 6-7? Do you think Satan has to go very far to find believers whose faithfulness he can easily exploit? Explain.

How did God describe Job? To what did Satan attribute Job's faithfulness? How can we know from God's response in verse 12 that He disagreed with Satan's assessment that Job's faithfulness was circumstantial?

Would you say your faithfulness to God is circumstantial? How can a person know the answer to that question? How have you seen God use your pain for your progress?

From verse 20, how did Job respond to the tragedies that came upon him? How does it speak to you that Scripture includes both Job's grief and his worship?

Put Job's response in verse 21 in your own words. Does this truth bring you comfort in your own seasons of sorrow and depression? Explain.

Do you think it would have made a difference to Job if he would have known why this was happening to him? Why or why not?

APPLICATION

What is one practical way you can demonstrate trust in Jesus in your current struggles or sorrows?