

Lesson 2 Handout

Job Questions

Job is a very well known Bible character. In the beginning of the Book of Job we are given a picture of God and Satan in Heaven. God essentially brags about Job's faithfulness and Satan claims that it is all because God has blessed him so thoroughly. God then tells Satan he can take away many of the blessings but he cannot take Job's life. Job loses almost everything and his wife tells him to curse God and die, but Job does not. He is "comforted" by a group of friends who try to convince Job that his suffering has come as a result of some sin. Job claims he is innocent. He wants the opportunity to question God. In the following passage, he gets the opportunity to speak with God.

Read Job 38-42, and respond to the following

- 1) Job has been waiting for God to give him an answer and he gets what he wants, sort of. How does God answer Job's queries? Is His answer the answer Job expected? Does God's answer make sense?
- 2) Look at Job's first response in 40:3-5 and his second response in 42:2-6. What is the difference between these two responses? Which do you think is the correct response?
- 3) Which type(s) of intimacy from the original definitions does Job experience with God here? Explain
- 4) What are the three most important things we learn about intimacy with God from Job? How do these apply to our modern lives?

Sharing With Others

You are about to teach Job to the other groups. You will have five minutes so you have to keep to the main points. You will need to:

- a) Act out or summarize the story.
- b) State the main purpose of the story.
- c) Discuss the three most important things you learned about intimacy with God and how they apply to our everyday lives.

Abraham Questions

Read Genesis 12:1-4

- 1) What is the first hint that there is intimacy between God and Abraham?
- 2) Why might Abraham have been inclined to disobey God and stay where he was?
- 3) Why might Abraham have been inclined to obey?

Read Genesis 15:1-6

- 1) How has the relationship between Abraham and God developed since the last passage?
- 2) What is Abraham's attitude towards God at the beginning of the passage?
- 3) What changes Abraham's mind?

Skim Genesis 18:16-33

- 1) Which type of intimacy from the list of definitions does Abraham demonstrate in this passage? Explain why you chose that definition.

Read Genesis 22: 1-2, 6-12

- 2) God severely tests the intimacy of their relationship in this passage. Where in this story does Abraham demonstrate his extreme faith in God?

General Question

- 1) What are the three most important things we learn from Abraham about intimacy with God? How do they apply to our everyday lives?

Sharing With Others

You are about to teach Abraham to the other groups. You will have five minutes so you have to keep to the main points. You will need to:

- a) Act out or summarize the story.
- b) State the main purpose of the story.
- c) Discuss the three most important things you learned about intimacy with God and how they apply to our everyday lives.

Moses Questions

Read Exodus 3:1-15

- 1) What is God's response to Moses' initial fear of going to the Egyptians? That statement also applies to us. Do we always act as if it is true?
- 2) God tells Moses that He is "I am." This is the same phrase discussed in lesson one. Why is this phrase so important to our understanding of God?

Read Exodus 4:1-17

- 1) What are Moses' three complaints in chapter 4?
- 2) How do God's responses to Moses demonstrate God's infinite understanding of humanity?
- 3) What does the fact that Aaron is "already on his way to meet" Moses tell us about God?
- 4) How does this story (3 and 4) demonstrate intimacy with God?

Read Exodus 19

- 1) In this passage God allows many people to hear God, but only Moses is allowed to come the closest. What does this tell us about God's intimacy with people?

General Questions

- 1) Which type(s) of intimacy from the original definitions does Moses experience with God here? Explain your thinking.
- 2) What are the three most important things we learn about intimacy with God from Moses? How do these apply to our modern lives?

Sharing With Others

You are about to teach Moses to the other groups. You will have five minutes so you have to keep to the main points. You will need to:

- a) Act out or summarize the story.
- b) State the main purpose of the story.
- c) Discuss the three most important things you learned about intimacy with God and how they apply to our everyday lives.

Elijah Questions

Read 1 Kings 17:1-5

- 1) How does Elijah's experience in the Ravine build intimacy with God?

Read 1 Kings 18:21-39

- 1) This is one of the most public stories in the Bible. Does Elijah achieve intimacy with God in such a public forum?
- 2) This is one of the most dramatic stories in the Bible. Why is Elijah so effective in this story? What qualities does he possess that make him the perfect choice for God to use in this way?

Read 1 Kings 19:2-18

- 1) After such a brilliant display of power in the last chapter does Elijah's reaction to Jezebel's threat make sense?
- 2) How does God show his intimate care for Elijah in this story?
- 3) What does the way God appears tell us about who He is and how He speaks to us?
- 4) What does God's final statement in verse 18 tell us about human nature and God's sovereignty?

General Questions

- 3) Which type(s) of intimacy from the original definitions does Elijah experience with God here? Explain your thinking.
- 4) What are the three most important things we learn about intimacy with God from Elijah? How do these apply to our modern lives?

Sharing With Others

You are about to teach Elijah to the other groups. You will have five minutes so you have to keep to the main points. You will need to:

- a) Act out or summarize the story.
- b) State the main purpose of the story.
- c) Discuss the three most important things you learned about intimacy with God and how they apply to our everyday lives.