

GROUP GUIDE

NEWSPRING CHURCH

THE LIFE OF JOB
DON'T GIVE UP!
WEEK 1



BIG IDEA

This series will show us how to have a life that's not free from pain, but marked by blessings. Today we will see that if we want to have blessed lives, we shouldn't give up on the God who has never given up on us.

GET STARTED

As your group time begins, use this section to introduce the topic of discussion.

What is one thing you quit doing as a kid or teenager that you wish you would have stuck with? Was it playing a sport? Learning an instrument? A difficult class in school?

Why did you quit? Why do you wish you would have stayed with it?

> WATCH THE CLIP FROM PERRY'S SERMON.

DISCUSS

Nobody knew the desire to quit better than Job. But we will see that one of the reasons why Job's life ended up being blessed is because he chose to not give up on the God who never gave up on him.

> READ JOB 42:12.

How does the Bible's view of Job compare to what you think?

What do you think happened to Job's circumstances that made him blessed at the end of his life? What might have happened in his heart to make him blessed?

God wants us to be blessed more than we do. The story of Job is more than a story about suffering; it's a story about a God who wants to bless His people in ways we can only imagine.

> READ JOB 1:1-5.

Based on these verses, what kind of man was Job?

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What do you think the people in his community thought about him?

> READ JOB 1:6-22.

Who brought Job into the conversation—Satan or God? Why is that important to know?

How have you seen God use your pain for your progress?

2 Corinthians 4:16-18 reminds us that every trouble we are facing is light and momentary. Why is that hard to remember sometimes?

How does fixing our eyes on Jesus instead of our circumstances help us to not give up?

There are five types of pain we all deal with: emotional pain, financial pain, relational pain, physical pain, and spiritual pain. Which of these kinds of pain is freshest for you right now?

What are some of the ways you have responded when you've experienced that kind of pain?

Why is it hard to remember that God is still God and that God is still good when you're experiencing pain?

No matter what's happening in our circumstances, God is working for the good. Our job isn't to know exactly what He's doing; our job is to hold on and not give up.

NEXT STEPS

Help your group identify what next steps we need to take together.

How can we pray for the members of our Group who are going through pain right now?

What is your next step to demonstrate that you're not giving up?

What is one way you are going to fix your eyes on Jesus instead of your circumstances this week?

PRAY

Close your time with prayer, thanking God that He has never given up on you. Ask Him to help you focus on Jesus instead of your circumstances.

LEADER TIPS

Midway through this week, send a follow-up email to your group with some or all of the following:

- Questions to consider as they continue to reflect on what they learned this week:
 - **Have you seen God begin to bring good out of the bad in your life this week? How?**
 - **Who is one person you need to encourage right now because they are walking through a painful time?**
- A note of encouragement, following up on any specific prayer requests mentioned during your group gathering.
- The challenge to memorize 2 Corinthians 4:16-18.