

## DAILY BIBLE STUDY SHEET

*Daily meditation on the Word of God is imperative to our growth. As the people of God, we should commit to reading Scripture every day. There are questions to help prompt your meditation. If you do not have a Bible, please contact the church office and one will be given to you. To locate the passages, use the Table of Contents to find the page number. The number before the colon will tell you the chapter to find. The numbers after the colon are the superscript numbers in your Bible indicating the verses to read.*

### **Monday, Oct 16<sup>th</sup> – Job 15**

This week we will read all the “Round 2” arguments and defenses. We need to keep in mind that these all stem from Job’s plea to God in chapter 14 from last week. As Pastor Shirley pointed out in her sermon, all three arguments assert that Job is wicked based on his plea, but each presents their argument from a different angle. We will start today with Eliphaz’s second speech in Job 15. As you read verses 1-6, what does Eliphaz say about Job’s plea to God? Eliphaz goes on with a series of questions, attacking Job’s wisdom with a summation at the end. What is Eliphaz’s summation (vs. 10)? So now that Eliphaz has established (at least in his own eyes) that he and the friends have the wisdom of the ages, he does another rapid-fire list of questions (vss. 11-13). While these are rhetorical, Eliphaz gives his opinionated answer, found in verses 14-15. What is the insinuation towards Job? Keeping in mind that Job has declared that he is blameless (right) before God, Eliphaz is about to set him straight (vs. 17). The remainder of this chapter describes what a wicked person’s life looks like under God’s justice. As you read verses 20-35, note which verses seem to describe Job’s current condition. By reading Eliphaz’s argument, is he suggesting that all Job’s suffering is because Job is wicked? Take a minute today and ponder whether what Eliphaz says is true or not. Do all wicked people suffer and live in fear? Do some? Do any? Is any human completely pure before God? If so, how? Are you pure before God? If so, how? Where have you seen or heard Eliphaz’s argument in the world today? What does this say about God? About us? About Jesus?

### **Tuesday, Oct. 17<sup>th</sup> – Job 16-17**

Today we read Job’s response to Eliphaz, extending over two chapters. Read 16:1-6. What is Job’s chief complaint? What would Job do differently (vs. 5)? Beginning at verse 7, to whom does Job turn his focus? What follows is Job’s lament to God. In 16:8-22, what is the gist of Job’s lament? What does Job claim about God (vs. 9)? Yet as he laments, where does Job still place his hope (vss. 19-20)? While chapter 17 continues the lament, we see Job express further hope in verses 1-5. What hope does Job have (17:3)? Picking up at verse 6, even though Job has hope in the Lord defending him in the end, what is he experiencing now at God’s hand (vs. 6)? What does this mockery look like (vss. 7-9)? At this point, where does Job turn his attention (vs. 10)? As you read 17:10-16, what is Job saying? Is his hope really gone? Or instead, would he rather cling to his hope, because if he followed his friends’ advice, his hope would die with him? Job’s first argument back is one of hope, hope that God will defend his innocence to his friends and restore him. What hope do you cling to when everything seems to go against you? Is it based on who God is or on what someone else says God is? Take some time today and consider what you believe about God. Does Scripture support your belief? If so, is this where your hope lies, even if you must suffer? Even if everyone tells you, “You are wrong?” Pray asking the Holy Spirit to reveal to you on whom you need to set your hope, and how you need to practice your hope.

### **Wednesday, Oct. 18<sup>th</sup> – Job 18-19**

Today we look at Bildad’s argument to Job and Job’s response to it. Bildad’s argument is the same as Eliphaz’s. Since Job took his plea directly to God, stating he believed he was innocent and asking God to fix his circumstances, Bildad believes Job is filled with wickedness. Yet the theme of Bildad’s argument uses darkness (compared to light) as the place the wicked live and fear. In verses 5-6, the first mention of light and darkness appears. What is the illustration? Verses 7-17 expound on the plight of the wicked. Verse 18 summarizes these things. What does it say? Driven to the darkness of death, how will others respond to the disaster upon the wicked (vss. 19-21)? This is the second time Job has been accused of being wicked. How does he begin his response (18:1-6)? How has God wronged Job, according to Job (vss. 7-20)? While we know God has not done this, we do know that God has allowed this to happen, but not for the reasons Job believes. Job then makes a plea in verses 21-24. What is it? Despite all that has happened, Job makes an amazing profession of pure faith. What does Job’s faith declare (vss. 25-27)? This declaration leads to renewed strength in his response to his friends. How does Job conclude his argument (vss. 28-29)? Solid spoken faith gives us renewed strength, as it reminds us of who we are and whose we are. Consider today Job’s statement of faith in verses 25-27. What does this say about God? About Jesus? How does this describe our faith? Do you stand on this faith daily?

### **Thursday, Oct. 19<sup>th</sup> – Job 20**

We now turn to Zophar’s round two response, which follows the logic of the other two arguments, Job is wicked because of his plea to God. Zophar’s approach is to explain the life of the wicked with an underlying understanding that if you were not wicked, your life would not be this way (vss. 4-5). So as you read verses 6-21, what point is Zophar making to Job? How much of what Zophar says matches Job’s experiences? Verses 22-23 are like an interlude. What does Zophar hope God will do (vs. 23)? Beginning at verse 24, Zophar resumes his litany of all the things that eventually happen to the wicked. How do we know that this is what Zophar’s argument is all about? Read verse 29. It is the reward God gives the wicked, not the blameless. Therefore, Job has to be wrong in Zophar’s eyes and mind. Again, do these things happen to wicked people? Sometimes. But they also can happen to righteous people. After all, it is happening to Job! The three friends, however, do not seem to be able to allow suffering to happen to anyone but the wicked. We are learning from this book that this is not necessarily true. Yes, the wicked may suffer from their wickedness, but sometimes the blameless, or in our case, the saved, will suffer and have trials as well. What does this realization stir in you?

### **Friday, Oct. 20<sup>th</sup> – Job 21**

We will close this week with Job’s final “Round 2” speech. This speech will be a bit different than the rest, in that Job makes some keen observations that cancel out the “Round 2” arguments. Verses 1-6 are the introduction to his speech. Where does Job’s complaint lie (vs. 4)? How does that make him feel (vs. 6)? Yet, in the rawness of the moment, what does Job have to lose? With that, Job begins to dismantle the arguments that insinuate that only the wicked suffer at God’s hands. He starts by asking what questions (vs. 7)? Now Job begins his defense against Zophar’s argument, but all of the arguments are covered here as well. This is because they are all basically the same accusation, that Job is in this position of loss and suffering because he is wicked. Read verses 8-16. This is what the wicked person’s life really looks like. This shoots down Eliphaz and Zophar’s argument. Now read verses 17-18. This is Job’s defense against Zophar and Bildad’s argument. Finally, verses 19-21 is Job’s defense against the rest of Zophar’s argument. Now read verses 22-33. What is Job’s point? Does God choose favorites? What happens to both the rich and the poor, the righteous and the wicked (vs. 26)? How does Job sum up the “Round 2” arguments (vs. 28)? How does Job counter his friends claims (vss. 29-33)? Because of real truth of these arguments have been exposed, what chief complaint does Job end with to his friends (vs. 34)? When do we use clichés to comfort folks? What might be a better way to comfort? What have you learned this week about God and yourself? About Jesus and faith? Thank God for these wisdom blessings.

**Saturday, Oct. 21<sup>st</sup> – In preparation for tomorrow’s worship, please read Job 19:22-29.**

**WORSHIP AT THE HAVEN TOMORROW – 10:00 AM**