

NOTES

HOW TO PERSEVERE IN TOUGH TIMES

JIM NICODEM | OCTOBER 22 & 23, 2022 | JOB 42:7-17

Introduction:

1. Don't Insist on an _____ from God
 - You wouldn't _____ it.
 - There's something _____ at stake.
2. Don't Listen to Everything People _____
3. Keep _____ to God
4. _____ for Others
5. Expect _____

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR FAMILY, FRIENDS & GROUPS

1. Describe a tough time in your life when you wondered what in the world God was up to? How did you feel at the time?
2. Read Job 23:3-5. What do you think Job might have said to God had he been given an audience with the Almighty at this point in the story?
3. Why is it pointless and counter-productive to insist on an explanation from God? (Cite and explain the reasons from the sermon.)
4. What kinds of questions does God ask Job in chapters 38-41? What's the main point of these questions?
5. Why was it important that Job not know about the wager between God and Satan? Draw a lesson from this part of the story for your own life.
6. Read Job 42:7-9. Why was God upset with Job's "friends"? Explain where those friends went wrong.
7. According to Hebrews 12:7, 11, how does God sometimes discipline us? How would you know whether a tough time in your life was for the sake of discipline or not?
8. What's one of the worst things someone (no names, please) has said to you when you were going through a tough time? What words from others have been helpful to you in difficult circumstances?
9. Reread Job 42:7-9. What does God call Job four times in these verses? What's the significance of that title? Even though Job said some harsh things to God, God commends him. Why? (See the footnote on v.7 in the NIV Study Bible.) Read Job 29:4, 5. What is Job's greatest longing in the midst of his suffering? How would you apply this to your own life?
10. Read Job 42:8-10. How did Job's praying for his friends benefit Job? (Cite two answers from the sermon.) Go to the Prayer Wall on CCC's app and take a few minutes to intercede for three of the people who've posted prayer requests.
11. Read Job 42:10-17. Do you think God will always restore us in this life? Explain. So how does this part of the story encourage us?