

Let God Be God
Lifelong Lessons from Job
Job 42:10-17

Adversity will come and with it a long list of emotional responses. The uncertainty of the outcome of adversity generates fear and anxiety. Fear and anxiety create doubt that stifles the decision-making process and paralyzes us into inaction. But “God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind” (1 Tim 1:7). Job reminds us that we do not have to fear adversity.

1. We must trade our illusions for God’s truth.
2. There is no safe place in war.
3. Our nature is sinful and fallen.
4. We suffer because our suffering accomplishes God’s purposes.

In this brief moment of time, we have a great opportunity to bear the honor of suffering for Christ. It is an opportunity that will never be ours in eternity; it is only ours right here, right now. So, my prayer as we close our study of the book of Job, is that we will stop grieving and complaining about our affliction and learn to count it a great joy and privilege to bear suffering and reproach for the sake of our Savior Jesus Christ.

Reflection

We have taken several months to study the book of Job. If you can think back far enough, what expectations did you bring into this study? Were those expectations met and, if so, how? What is the most significant personal discovery you’ve made from our time in Job? What surprised you or troubled you most about the truths from Job? How has the book of Job helped you grow closer in your relationship with Christ? How has it helped you understand more deeply the work of Christ and His cross? Are there areas in your life that you feel you still need to grow? Are there things in your life where Job affirmed your reaction or response to a particular situation? Take a moment to celebrate all that God has done in your life through this study.