

TALK IT OVER

the whole story: Part 4 Know Your Enemy

Key Scriptures:

Job 1 & 2 (All)

Job 1:20 Then Job arose and ^ctore his ^drobe and ^eshaved his head ^fand fell on the ground and worshiped. **21** And he said, ^g“Naked I came from my mother’s womb, and naked shall I ^hreturn. The Lord ⁱgave, and the Lord has taken away; ^jblessed be the name of the Lord.”

Job 2:10 But he said to her, “You speak as one of the foolish women would speak. Shall we receive good from God, and shall we not receive evil?” ^[a] In all this Job did not sin with his lips.

Ephesians 6:11-12 *Put on the full armor of God, so that you can make your stand against the devil’s schemes.* For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.

2 Corinthians 11:14 And no wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light.

1 Peter 5:8 Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.

Luke 22:31-32 **31** “Simon, Simon, behold, Satan has demanded *permission* to sift you like wheat; **32** but I have prayed for you, that your faith may not fail; and you, when once you have turned again, strengthen your brothers.”

1 Peter 5:6 Humble yourselves, therefore, under God’s mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. **7** Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you

1 Cor 10:13 No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.

Isaiah 14:12–15 & Ezekiel 28:17–18

Start Talking. Find a conversation starter for your group.

- What did you think about the devil growing up? Was it Biblical or built on pop culture depictions?

Start Thinking. Ask a question to get your group thinking.

- How has studying Job’s struggle changed your view of the devil’s attempt to hinder and harm your life?
- What do you think the devil wants you to believe about God? Use Job 1 & 2 to help form your thoughts around Scripture.

Start Sharing. Choose a question to create openness.

- Job’s story illustrates how to “make the devil work for it.” What are some ways you are making it too easy for the devil OR what are you doing to “keep the devil on his toes?”
- Sometimes we need to worship through the pain. Sometimes we need to wait for deliverance. Sometimes we need to do both. Do you have any stories where you needed to “worship and wait?” How did God show you HE was working through that situation?

Start Praying. Pray this prayer in your own words over the person next to you!

Father, we praise you that you work all things together for the good of those who love you and are called according to your purpose. We acknowledge that the struggles we experience are often complicated and beyond our grasp to understand. Help us to trust you more in our struggles. Help us to worship and wait for deliverance. Empower us to overcome evil, not with evil, but with good. Because you are good, Lord. To you be the glory forever and ever, amen!

Start Doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week.

- The things of The Lord in our lives will last forever, whereas the things of the Devil will eventually burn up. Write down the struggle that is hindering or hurting your life most and either burn it (carefully!) or tear it up with a prayerful attitude. Prayerfully commit to worshipping God while you wait for deliverance rather than giving the devil satisfaction in seeing you curse God.

“Sometimes we have to survive the struggle before we receive the blessing.”

Find out more by checking out the series “the whole story – part 4” at www.myrestore.church