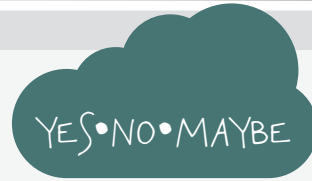




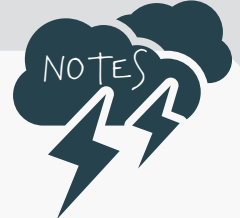
## SESSION

# 1

THE STORY OF  
JOB & GOD



1. I seem to be a magnet to painful experiences.
2. If you give your whole life to God, your life will improve.
3. God protects the people He loves.
4. If I lost everything and everyone I love, it would cause me to ask God what He was doing.
5. When calamity comes into my life, I praise God for it.



### READ Job chapter 1.

DIG DEEP

#### JOB'S RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

• **V. 1 - "Feared God and shunned evil:** As if to elaborate on what "blameless and upright" meant, the remainder of the verse declares in two short sentences that Job "feared God" and "shunned evil." "Fear" in Hebrew has a wider range of meaning than it does in English, including fright and scare, but it also encompasses reverence and awe. The picture here is not of a man cowering before an offended deity but of a devout man who respects God and obeys his laws.

∞ Job respected and obeyed God. What does it say about God that He allows Satan to inflict pain on the righteous? Why would God allow this?

#### JOB'S TESTS:

• **TEST OF WEALTH (1:6-22)**

The rest of chap. 1 describes the first of two tests to which Job was put, the test of wealth, that is, the loss of his children, servants, and possessions. In this test the Satan, who first appeared in v. 6, gained permission from the Lord to take everything from Job except his health.

Out of the conversation with the Lord, the Satan presented Job with a

## DIG DEEP

challenge. He claimed that Job was only good toward God because God had been good toward him. To prove that such was not the case, the Lord allowed the accuser to take away all that supposedly was the reason for Job's piety. The second half of this section catalogs those losses. Did Job pass the test? Was God right, or was the Satan right? Verse 22 is the answer.

- **V. 9 - "Does Job fear God for nothing?"** - Satan asks if Job respects and obeys God for no reason? He's accusing God of buying Job's allegiance with His blessings.

- ∞ Does this seem to be more of a test from Satan intended for Job or aimed at God? Why?

- **V. 11, 12 - 11 "But now stretch out your hand and strike everything he has, and he will surely curse you to your face." 12 The Lord said to Satan, "Very well, then, everything he has is in your power, but on the man himself do not lay a finger." Then Satan went out from the presence of the Lord.:** Satan had asked God to stretch out his hand against Job. God did not do that but permitted the Satan to stretch out his hand against all that Job had, but not against Job himself.

- ∞ What does it say about God's character that he allows Satan to test Job?

- ∞ How does God respond to Satan's accusations against Job?

- **V. 20-22 - 20 At this, Job got up and tore his robe and shaved his head. Then he fell to the ground in worship 21 and said: "Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked I will depart. The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away; may the name of the Lord be praised." 22 In all this, Job did not sin by charging God with wrongdoing.**

- ∞ How does Job's response to his calamities show his understanding of the character of God?

1. What are the tests that Satan has caused to get me to curse God?
2. How am I responding to the calamities that happen in my life?
3. How does this help to clarify my understanding of God's character?

