

## SUMMARY AND REVIEW

1. Take 5-10 minutes to discuss last week's sermon. What did you learn about God and Job?

## INTRO TO THE TEXT

Job is bold and fearless before God, certain of his vindication, asking why he needs to confess, believing God will remember him, and relying on God for resurrected life. The three main statements which sum up the three chapters below are: (1) Show me my sin (ch. 13); (2) Though He slay me, yet I will hope in Him (Ch. 14); and (3) I know that my Redeemer lives (Ch. 19).

**READ** Job 13:13-24, 14:7-17, and 19:13-27

## DISCUSS AND REFLECT

1. Read Job 13:13-24 again. Paraphrase what Job is ultimately saying.
2. What is Job sure that God will do for him (13:15-16, 18)?
3. What two things does Job request (13:20-21)? What does this mean Job believed about God's involvement in his suffering?
4. Chapter 13, verses 20-22 show that Job is willing to be either plaintiff or defendant: He simply wants relationship, resolution, and reconciliation. Have you ever felt this way? How have you responded to God during this time?
5. How do you think Job's physical pain, psychological despair, and social rejection make his faith meaningful?
6. Reflect on 19:25-27. When we identify the "Redeemer" of Job 19:25 with Christ, do we identify Job's faith as ours? Explain.  
**Note:** These verses remain a riddle, but it is clear Job expects vindication by God.

## A FEW THINGS TO CONSIDER

The theological wisdom that God works for the destruction of the wicked and upholds the righteous (The Retribution Principle) is familiar to Job and his friends, but does not fit his case. Thus, Job takes his situation up with God.

### Chapter 13:13-24.

Job is tired of his friends "comforts and excuses" and asks them to leave his presence. He realizes he must take his situation before God, no matter the consequences: He must defend himself and speak the truth about his life. He is certain of his vindication, that God will save his soul: "Though He slay me, yet I will trust in Him." Job wishes to have fellowship with God, which causes him to carefully prepare his own defense and ask for an explanation of his indictment.

### Chapter 14:7-17.

Job oscillates between hope and despair, but Job believes God will call him into resurrected life because God remembers his people. Ultimately, Job's hope comes in the midst of his suffering.

### Chapter 19:13-27.

Job reiterates what he has already said and laments the unbearable social isolation. Job had expected his friends to help him, but they were worthless and became his tormentors. All his family, friends, and even children, despised and abandoned him and can't help him, making him realize, *only God will be his redeemer*. By Chapter 19 Job has lost his dignity and composure: He is broken by the blows of God and men. *Yet, his certainty of vindication is at the heart of his faith and he sees atonement even in the midst of his humiliation.*

**APPLY** If willing, break up into men and women

1. How are we similar to and different from Job?
2. When have you (or your friends) faced such despair as Job and what has been the response?
3. Why does Job continue to wait on God to speak and on God's judgment?
4. Will God remember us? How have you seen him remember you? Where do you struggle to believe this promise?

**MEMORIZE** Job 19:25 *I know that my redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand on the earth*

**FURTHER READING** - *Job* by James A. Wharton, Westminster Bible Companion, 1999, pages 85-91. // Romans 10:9