



TIME OF GRACE®

Grace_{notes}

guides for personal Bible study

When Life Gets Hard

1 Corinthians 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.”

Job 2:10: “He replied, ‘You are talking like a foolish woman. Shall we accept good from God, and not trouble?’ In all this, Job did not sin in what he said.”

Hebrews 8:12: “I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more.”

1 Peter 1:20: “He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake.”

Job 19:25-27: ²⁵ I know that my redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand on the earth. ²⁶ And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh I will see God; ²⁷ I myself will see him with my own eyes—I, and not another. How my heart yearns within me!”

Points to Ponder

1. Why do bad things happen to good people?
2. Can you understand the anger that Job’s wife felt? How did Job react out of faith and trust in God?
3. Does God remember particularly bad sins that we’ve committed and then punish us for them later? How *does* his forgiveness work?

4. When things seem out of control in your life, of what can you remind yourself? And how does God feel about you even if you don't feel so great about yourself? In what major way did he show you that love?

5. Read Job 19:25-27. After all of the stress and trials in Job's life, what amazing testimony was he still able to make? Realize that this is absolutely the truth for you as well!

Like Job in the Bible, our lives don't always turn out the way we want them to. We too are touched by death, job loss, tragedy, divorce, and other troubles. But like Job, we can turn to God in our pain and darkness and find light and hope. He has all power; he is in control; he has a plan for each of us. And he already carried out the ultimate plan of salvation for us.

What else does God say?

1 Chronicles 16:11: Look to the LORD and his strength; seek his face always.

Isaiah 43:1: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine.