

Lesson C2.6 - Keep Trusting God



Teacher's Pages with Step-by-Step Lesson Plan

For Lower Elementary Students and Classes

Recommended for students in Preschool, Kindergarten, and Grades 1-2.

Quick Facts for the Teacher

Lesson Summary: Job 1:1, 2:1-13

► Bible Characters: The Singer and the People

The tale of Job and his suffering is one of the oldest stories in the Bible. In it, a good and honorable man is allowed to be tested again and again, but remains faithful to God despite it all. Even his friends wonder what he did to deserve such pain. By the end, Job is rewarded for not cursing God during his hard times, and his life, while changed, is blessed.

Brief Bible Background

► Today's Lesson is from the Old Testament

► Scripture Section: Writings

Throughout the Old Testament are books of poetry, proverbs, and songs. Most of these writings are not attached to a particular time or place, but reflect the good and bad times we all experience.

For More Information

The primary role of a Sunday School teacher for Preschool, Kindergarten (pre-readers), and Early Elementary (new readers) is to simply tell children the stories of Scripture and introduce them to the major characters of the Bible.

Teachers who want to know more about the lessons for their own familiarity with the story are encouraged to read the information in the SEED Upper Elementary and Youth Teacher's Pages.

a. Classroom Greeting

Teachers should arrive 10 to 15 minutes before class and greet students and parents by name. Write the day's Bible Message on the white board or poster board for all the kids to see. Have kids gather on a rug or in a dedicated meeting space. Encourage the children to learn each other's names.

b. Opening Prayer Song

This same opening song should be sung every week with young kids — remember, repetition is good. The words to this song are sung to the tune of the **Alphabet Song**.

Welcome everyone today!

Now let's settle down and pray.

Thank you, Lord, that we are here.

Keep us healthy through the year.

Help us listen, learn and grow.

Teach us all that we should know. Amen!

c. Introduction to Today's Message

*Teacher's Script (student responses are in **bold**).*

Have you ever had a day when everything went wrong? What happened? (*Call on volunteers.*) It can be hard not to get angry and frustrated when things don't go our way. But what can we do? Pray, and **keep trusting God**. Say that with me: **Keep trusting God!**

What does it mean to trust God? (*It means to believe that God is in control and that if he allows something, he can bring good out of it.*)

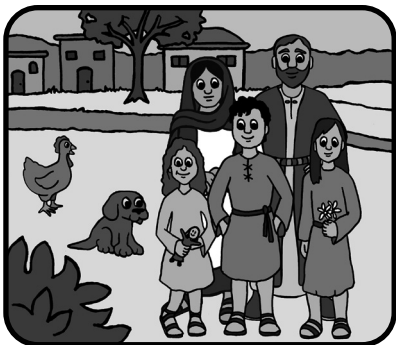
In today's story, a good man had a bad day, a bad week, a bad month--just a long, bad time. What did he do about it? He decided to **keep trusting God!** What happened to him? Let's hear our story and find out!

d. SEED Bible Story Video

The teacher may introduce the lesson by playing the video clip from the SEED website. This may be displayed simply on a laptop computer or tablet. If the classroom is equipped with a computer video monitor or video projector, the video can be displayed in a larger size.

e. Read the Story with Poster Pictures

The Bible Story has been divided into four parts, each with an accompanying Poster Picture. The teacher should hold up or point to the relevant Poster Picture while reading the individual part of the story, asking questions while reading. Posters may be printed on letter-sized paper, or enlarged and printed on ledger-sized paper if a bigger printer is available. Poster pictures may also be opened as a PDF on a computer screen, scrolling through each of the four pages.



Picture 1

Tell the children: The story of Job is one of the oldest in the Bible, but even today, people still talk about it. Why? Because it shows us how to handle hard times of suffering, and reminds us that God cares for us even when bad things happen.

Read the caption: Long ago, there was a good man named Job. He had money, a family, and fine health. He put God first in his life.

- Which person in this picture is Job (pronounced JOBE)? [The tall man in blue]
- What do you notice about this picture? [Job has a family, a home, even animals.]



Picture 2

Tell the children: God loved that Job was such a faithful and good man. But the devil thought Job was only that way because he had an easy life. What would happen if his blessings were taken away? What then? God allowed the devil to test Job to find out.

Read the caption: One day, a whole bunch of bad things happened to Job. He got sick. People he loved died. He even lost his home.

- What is different in this picture? [Job is alone; his skin looks bumpy; he looks weak and sick and sad; his house looks like it is gone and piles of ashes remain.]
- How would you feel if you were Job? [Call on volunteers.]



Picture 3

Tell the children: Those who saw what happened to Job were shocked. How could such bad things happen to a good man like Job? His friends came to comfort him but ended up blaming him for his hardships. This only made Job feel worse.

Read the caption: Job's friends thought he must have sinned. "Why else would so many bad things happen to him," they wondered.

- What is happening in this picture? [Job's friends are trying to figure out what happened to Job and why.]
- What is Job doing? [He's praying to God in the background.]



Picture 4

Tell the children: Job's friends said that all these bad things must have happened to Job because he was a bad person. But that was not true!

Read the caption: Job had done nothing wrong. He cried and prayed, but he never cursed God. In time, God answered Job — and blessed him.

- What do you notice about this picture? [Job and his wife have a little child and a new home. They look happy again.]
- Why do you think God rewarded Job? [Even though he went through such hard times, Job remained faithful. He kept trusting God.]

Remember today's message: **Keep trusting God!**

f. Bible Story Rhyme (optional)

The Bible Story Rhyme below is the same one found on the Upper Elementary Student sheet. The teacher can read the beginning of the line and see if the children can finish the last rhyming word of the phrase.

*Long ago, in a land called Uz,
there lived a man who truly was
as good and decent as could be;
on this, the angels all agreed.*

*The man, named Job, was wealthy, too.
And day by day, his riches grew.
Then Satan said to God, "I'll bet
if Job is poor, he'll blame you yet!"*

*So, Satan took away Job's wealth,
as well as all his kids and health.
Yet never did Job curse the Lord.
And in the end, all was restored.*

g. Young Children's Activity (optional)

Simple in-class craft activities may be completed by the children if there is time left at the end of class. (Note: For the youngest children, simply providing crayons and letting them complete the Coloring Page may serve as the "craft" for the day.)

Game: Sit in Silence**Materials Needed:**

- Large space to play a game

Instructions:

To play this Biblical version of the classic tag game, choose one person to be Job. Everyone else will be Job's friends.

When you say, "Go," the player who is Job will try to tag as many people as possible within a certain span of time. Anyone who gets tagged is out and must sit down on the ground in silence, like Job's friends did. Play until half the people are tagged; then play a second game of tag with someone else as Job.

In this game, people ran away from Job. Then, when they were tagged, they sat down in silence.

In real life, people sometimes avoid those who are going through a hard time, as Job was. They may not know what to say. But just being with a suffering person, praying with them, and listening to them is often the most helpful thing we can do. We don't have to know what to say — caring presence is a comfort of its own.



h. Song (optional)

Sing this to the tune, "Head, Shoulders Knees and Toes." That song can be found on YouTube or other music sites.

Have kids stand and point up on "trust God" and hold their hands in a heart shape (as shown below) every time they sing, "in my heart." After one round, sing it again, faster. Then a third time, faster yet!

I Trust God in My Heart

**I trust God in my heart,
in my heart.**

**I trust God in my heart,
in my heart.**

**He is with me,
he won't depart!**

I trust God in my heart, in my heart!!



i. Story Review: Then What Happened?

Then What Happened is a learning game that helps kids retell the story and remember the flow of events. The teacher reads the starting sentence and then chooses a student to continue the story. There are two rules: each student may only add one sentence or say one new thing, and events in the story need to be in the right order.

► **Start: Job was a good, faithful man who loved God. Then what happened?**

If the younger kids have trouble, cut a Take-Home Page into four pieces (with no words) and let the kids put the illustrations in order while they tell the story.

j. Closing Prayer

Send the children home with the Take-Home Page, and tell them to ask their parents to read the story to them again (or, perhaps, they can read it to their parents).

End class with this closing prayer, repeated each week for memorization.

Dear God,

Thank you for loving us,

For teaching and for helping us,

For always watching over us,

We love you too.

Amen!