Preschool–Grade 6

Job Trusts God

Sunday School Lesson for Kindergarten to 2nd Grade, 45 minutes

Main point: We can trust God in hard times. Job lost almost everything, but he still worshipped God, and God blessed him in the end.
Bible passage: Job 1–2 and Job 42. Read them before class.
Memory verse: "And said, Naked came I out of my mother's womb, and naked shall I return thither: the LORD gave, and the LORD hath taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD." *Job 1:21 (KJV)*
You need: a Bible, 6 paper strips, a marker, tape, crayons, and one take-home sheet for each child.
Before class: write the memory verse on the 6 paper strips (see part 4). Put bookmarks in your Bible at Job 1:21 and Job 42:10.

1. Opening game: Double It (5 minutes)

Hold up one finger. The kids hold up two fingers, twice as many. Hold up two fingers; they hold up four. Three; they hold up six. Five; they hold up ten, both hands! Then clap two times, and they clap four times. Say: "Twice as many means double. Today we will hear a true story about a man named Job. He lost almost everything, and at the end God gave him twice as much as he had before!"

2. Bible story: Job Still Worshipped God (10 minutes)

Hold up your Bible open to Job 1, so the kids can see the story comes from God's Word. Tell it in your own words:

Long ago, in the land of Uz, there lived a man named **Job** (Job 1:1). The Bible says Job was **perfect and upright**: he lived a good and honest life. He **feared God**, which means he loved God and obeyed Him, and he **eschewed evil**, which means he stayed away from what is wrong (1:1). Job had seven sons and three daughters (1:2). He had 7,000 sheep, 3,000 camels, 500 **yoke of oxen** (a yoke is a pair, two oxen that work together) and 500 **she asses**, mother donkeys (1:3). He was the greatest man in all the east (1:3). And Job cared for his children. He got up early in the morning to give offerings to God for every one of them (1:5).

One day Satan, God's enemy, came before the LORD (1:6). God said there was no one on earth like Job (1:8). Satan said Job only feared God because God had blessed him so much, and that if Job lost everything, he would **curse** God, which means say bad things against God (1:9–11). God let Satan touch the things Job had, but not Job himself (1:12). God was still in charge, and He set the limit.

Then came a very sad day. One messenger after another came to Job with bad news. His oxen and donkeys were taken away (1:14–15). His sheep were burned up by fire that fell from heaven (1:16). His camels were taken away (1:17). And then the saddest news of all: a great wind blew down the house where his sons and daughters were, and his children died (1:18–19).

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The story continues: What did Job do? He tore his robe and shaved his head, which is what people did back then when they were very sad (1:20). He fell down on the ground, and he **worshipped** God (1:20). **Read Job 1:21 from your Bible.** Say: "Job meant, 'I had nothing when I was born, and I will take nothing with me at the end of my life. Everything I had came from God. I will still praise Him!'" The Bible says, "In all this Job sinned not, nor charged God foolishly" (1:22). That means Job did not sin, and he did not blame God.

Then Job got sick, with painful **boils**, sore spots, all over his body, from his feet to the top of his head (2:7). He sat down in the ashes (2:8). But Job still would not speak against God. He said, "shall we receive good at the hand of God, and shall we not receive evil?" (2:10) Say: "That means, 'Should we take the good days from God, and not the hard days too?'"

Job's three friends, Eliphaz, Bildad and Zophar, came to be with him and comfort him (2:11). They sat with him on the ground seven days and seven nights, and nobody said a word, because they saw how great his sorrow was (2:13). Later, his friends said things about God that were not right (42:7). After the LORD had spoken to Job, God told the friends to go to Job, and Job prayed for his friends (42:7–10).

Read Job 42:10 from your Bible. Say: "**The LORD turned the captivity of Job** means God turned Job's hard times around." The LORD blessed the end of Job's life more than the beginning: 14,000 sheep, 6,000 camels, 1,000 yoke of oxen and 1,000 she asses, twice as many as before (42:12)! Job had seven sons and three daughters again (42:13). His daughters were named Jemima, Kezia and Keren-happuch (42:14). Job lived 140 more years and saw four generations of his family (42:16).

3. Questions to ask (5 minutes)

1. What kind of man was Job? *(Perfect and upright; he feared God and stayed away from evil, Job 1:1)*
2. When Job lost almost everything, what did he do? *(He fell down on the ground and worshipped, 1:20)*
3. What did Job say? *("The LORD gave, and the LORD hath taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD," 1:21)*
4. Who did Job pray for? *(His friends, 42:10)*
5. How much did God give Job at the end? *(Twice as much as he had before, 42:10)*

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4. Memory verse: Take Away a Strip (5 minutes)

Tape the 6 paper strips up in order: *And said, Naked came I out of my mother's womb, / and naked shall I return thither: / the LORD gave, / and the LORD hath taken away; / blessed be the name of the LORD. / Job 1:21.* Explain the words: **naked came I out of my mother's womb** means "I had nothing when I was born"; **return thither** means go back, so "I will take nothing with me at the end"; **blessed be** means "praise be." Read the verse together with motions: open your hands out in front of you for "the LORD gave," pull your hands back to your chest for "the LORD hath taken away," and raise both hands high for "blessed be the name of the LORD." Then take down one strip and read it again. Keep taking down one strip each time until the kids can say the verse by themselves.

5. What this means for us (5 minutes)

Say: "Job trusted God when everything went wrong, and God took care of him. God loves you very much, on happy days and on sad days. But everyone has done wrong things. The Bible calls that sin: 'For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God' (Romans 3:23, KJV). That means none of us is as good as God. Jesus is the one God who came to earth as a man (1 Timothy 3:16). Jesus died for our sins, He was buried, and He rose again (1 Corinthians 15:3–4)! The Bible tells us how to obey the gospel, the good news about Jesus: 'Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.' (Acts 2:38, KJV) To **repent** means we are sorry for our sin and we turn away from it. We are **baptized**, buried all the way under the water, in Jesus' name, so our sins are washed away (Romans 6:4; Acts 22:16). **Remission** means God takes our sins away. And God fills us with the **Holy Ghost**, His own Spirit, and we speak in other tongues, words God gives us, just like the believers did in the Bible (Acts 2:4)."

Pray with the kids, and encourage them to talk with their parents and pastor about being baptized in Jesus' name and filled with the Holy Ghost. Never pressure a child.

This week: when something hard happens, pray and tell God, "I still love You and trust You," like Job did.

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6. Activity (10–15 minutes)

Choose one: the **story of Job word search** (vbshq.com/puzzles/job-word-search), crossword (vbshq.com/puzzles/job-crossword), maze (vbshq.com/puzzles/job-maze) or worksheet (vbshq.com/worksheets/job-worksheet), the coloring page or craft (vbshq.com/bible-stories/job), or **Good Days and Hard Days:** call out a good thing ("You got a new puppy!") and the kids jump up and say, "Thank You, God!" Call out a hard thing ("You fell and scraped your knee") and the kids fold their hands, then stand and raise their hands and say, "Blessed be the name of the LORD!" Ask: *Can we pray to God and praise Him on hard days too? What did Job do on his hardest day?* (He worshipped, Job 1:20.)

7. Prayer

"Dear God, thank You for everything You give us. Help us trust You and praise You on happy days and on hard days, like Job did. Thank You for loving us and coming to save us in Jesus. In Jesus' name, amen."

If a child asks why God let this happen: say, "The Bible tells us God set a limit on what Satan could do (Job 1:12; 2:6), but it doesn't tell us everything. We know Job trusted God, and God blessed him in the end (42:12)." Don't add reasons the Bible doesn't give.
If a child is sad about Job's children: keep it short and gentle: "It's a sad part of the story. Job was very sad too, and his friends came to comfort him (2:11, 2:13)." If a child has lost someone they love, listen kindly and let the parents know.
Left out on purpose: this lesson does not tell that Job's servants were killed (1:15–17), what Job's wife said (2:9), the long talks in chapters 3–41, or the gifts Job's family brought (42:11). Read Job 1–2 and Job 42 yourself before class.

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