

## It Is Better to Know God than to Know the Answer

### PRAY

### SHARE

- When was the last time you wondered, “God, why is this happening to me?”
- What kind of questions do you ask God when you don’t understand the circumstances in your life?
- Does God always give us solutions to our problems or answers to our questions? Why or why not?

### READ Job chapter 38

Job could not require God to give answers. Instead, through rhetorical questions, God revealed his power and perfection to Job. Consider your own understanding of God. Do you acknowledge God as the almighty creator and absolute authority? Can you accept his love and special concern for you?

### REFLECTION & ACTION

- Job chapter 38 teaches us that the universe does not revolve around us—instead it revolves around God’s will and work. Why is this lesson so important, and why is it sometimes so hard to apply to our daily lives?
- Job 38 reminds us that someday all the “whys” will be answered... but for now we need to remember this:
  - We are not always capable of comprehending the answer
  - It would ruin the test if we knew the answer in advance

2 Corinthians 12:8 says, “*I prayed three times that God would remove the thorn in my flesh and God said, no ‘My grace is sufficient for you.’*” Why is this such an important faith lesson to learn and live by?
- The book of Job teaches us that pain and suffering can make us better or bitter. How have you dealt with this dilemma in your own journey of faith and life? How can Job chapter 38 be a source of strength and hope in becoming better and not bitter?
- The book of Job teaches us that God doesn’t “pay” at the end of everyday, but in the end He pays! Job 19:25 says, “*As for me, I know that my Redeemer lives, and at the last he will take his stand on the earth.*” While we certainly live in a quick-fix, immediate-impact, and short-view world, we must be committed to set our sights on the long-view horizon that focuses on God. How does Job chapter 38 help give your life and faith perspective in the midst of suffering and pain?

### CLOSE in PRAYER

(Is there anyone in your group experiencing a particularly difficult time of suffering like Job? Spend time in special prayer for that person and their current situation.)