



GOD CONTROLS EVERYTHING: JOB

UNIT 3: SESSION 6

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KEY PASSAGE:

Psalm 135:5-6



BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

Who is in control of everything? God is in control of everything in heaven and on earth. Nothing is outside of God's good plan.



CHRIST CONNECTION:

Job learned that God is all-powerful, sovereign, and good. When we face suffering, we can hope in God. God sent Jesus, the only truly innocent One, to suffer and die so that everyone who trusts in Him can have forgiveness and eternal life.

LEADER BIBLE STUDY

In research, there is a common practice used to measure data: the pretest and posttest. The pretest is a baseline, assessing the state of something prior to experimental factors being introduced. As is suggested by the name, this happens prior to the experiment. The posttest is a comparison, designed to compare the outcome of the experiment to the pretest results in order to assess change. As the name suggests, the posttest comes after the experiment.

In the life of Job, we find a man who goes through the most traumatic experiences imaginable. Job lost his kids, his wealth, his career, and his friends. His sheep even burned up! (It's true, read Job 1:16.) Job's life was turned upside down. His joy was low and his sorrow was high.

It's fascinating to look at Job's life before and after this series of trials. Prior to Job's losing all he had, Job is described as blameless and upright, fearing God and turning away from evil. He had great spiritual fortitude and great material wealth.

Following his extended trial, Job repented of his wavering trust in God. Job was restored to God, and God restored his wealth to a greater degree than before.

The pretest and posttest of Job's journey demonstrate a man who, in the big picture, was unshakable in his relationship with God. Though he had high and low moments during the trial, Job was fully restored to God. Like Job, our faithfulness does not mean that there won't be moments of struggle or slipping, but it does mean that overall, our faith in God remains and grows. If you aren't in the midst of a trial, know that God is strengthening your trust in Him so that when difficulty does come—and it will—your pretest shows a strong faith that can endure. And if you are in the midst of great challenges right now, strive to endure so that a posttest might demonstrate that your love and trust of God has remained and even increased. Trials are inevitable. Trust in God, who controls everything. Anticipate that trials will come, and aim for growth on the other side.

1. WELCOME KIDS



SAY: Think about a time something went wrong. How did you react? Has your reaction to frustration or disappointment changed as you've gotten older? Why or why not?

OPTIONAL GAMES:

OPTION 1: DESIGN A HERO

Provide paper and colored pencils. Instruct each kid to draw a picture of their own new superhero. What special abilities would the superhero have? What would the hero's name be?

Discuss which of these powers would be most valuable: being able to do anything, being in charge of everything, or being able to always do the right thing. Invite kids to share their drawings with the group.

SAY: In the Bible story we will hear today, a man named Job learned that God is all three of those things! He can do anything, He is in charge of everything, and He always does the right thing. No one is like Him!

OPTION 2: WISE OR FOOLISH ADVICE

Give each kid two sticky notes. Ask them to write two pieces of good advice they have given or received. (Example: Tell the truth.) Collect the notes. Read a scenario from the list below and read two or three notes of advice. Ask the kids to evaluate whether each one is wise advice or foolish advice for that situation.

1. You borrowed your friend's pencil and lost it.
2. You failed your math test.
3. You saw someone being mean to a kid at the park.
4. Your friend looks angry.

SAY: Some of the advice seemed foolish because you didn't know the situation when you wrote down your advice. In today's Bible story, Job's friends didn't understand the whole situation when they tried to give him advice about God. Some of it was good, but most of it was foolish.

2. INTRODUCE THE BIBLE STORY

INTRODUCE THE SESSION

If you brought your Bible, hold it up. [Provide Bibles for kids who need one.] Can anyone tell me what the Bible is about? [Allow kids to respond.] The Bible is God's Word. It tells us the wonderful story of God's plan to rescue sinners. The Bible tells us what is true about God and about ourselves. One truth we see in God's Word and in the world around us is this: God controls everything.



BIG PICTURE QUESTION



SAY: God is sovereign. That means that He has unlimited power and authority. This is what our big picture question tells us. Say it with me: **Who is in control of everything? God is in control of everything in heaven and on earth.** Nothing is outside of God's good plan. This big picture question reflects a big truth we will see over and over again in the Bible. Nothing happens just by chance. God controls everything. This is comforting to us because He is good.



3. REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY



SAY: We've been talking a lot about ways God worked in people's lives in the Old Testament to carry out His good plan. **God chose Abraham and made a covenant with him.** God promised to give him land and a family.

He promised to bless all the world through Abraham's family. We followed the story through Abraham's son Isaac and then his son Jacob. God changed Jacob's name to Israel, and this family formed God's people—the nation of Israel. We will hear about these Israelites throughout the rest of the Old Testament. **In each of these stories, we've seen God in control.** The story we will hear today took place around the time of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. **It is a story that teaches us even more about God's control over everything.**

Job's story starts with Satan approaching God. Satan is an enemy of God. He is against everything that God is for. He doesn't want us to follow God or love Him. Now, why did Satan target Job? Look at Job 1:8. [Choose a volunteer to read the verse aloud.] Is it surprising that God pointed out Job to Satan?

Job was faithful to God, but Satan claimed that Job only followed God because of God's blessings—Job's home, his animals, his family, and his health. So God allowed Satan to take all that away from Job, but **God did not allow Satan to hurt Job.** Satan cannot do anything without God's permission. Satan's power is limited. He does not have authority over all things. He could only act as God allowed.

God controls everything. So Job lost all he had and got sick. What advice did Job's wife give him? Look at Job 2:9. [Choose a volunteer to read the verse aloud.] Job's wife had lost everything along with Job. She was hurting too. She had a hard time imagining life ever getting any better. Job responded differently though. Job was hurting, but he wanted to be faithful even in his suffering. Trusting God doesn't mean you go through suffering with a smile and pretend it doesn't hurt. Job wanted to trust God, but he started to doubt and believe God had made a mistake. Job talked with his friends. He told God how he was feeling. He asked questions.

God met with Job, speaking to him through a whirlwind. God draws near to comfort us when we suffer. When Job realized that God controls everything, he confessed his misunderstanding. Look at Job 42:1-3. [Choose a volunteer to read the passage aloud.] We can't always see or understand the bigger picture, but God does and we can trust Him. He knows how life works best, and He works in and through all things. God is aware of everything happening in our lives. He is near, even when we cannot sense His presence. Who is in control of everything? God is in control of everything in heaven and on earth.

Nothing is outside of God's good plan.



4. GROUP DISCUSSION

Ask the following questions. Lead the kids to discuss their answers.



SAY: Why doesn't God explain what is happening in the world when we don't understand it?

SAY: What could you say to encourage a friend or family member who is going through a difficult time?

If time remains, take prayer requests. **Pray for your group.**

5. JOURNAL AND PRAYER

Distribute journal pages and pencils. Guide kids to think about and answer the questions listed on the page. As kids journal, invite them to share their ideas.

- What does this story teach me about God or the gospel?
- What does the story teach me about myself?
- Are there any commands in this story to obey? How are they for God's glory and my good?
- Are there promises in this story to remember? How do they help me trust and love God?
- How does this story help me to live on mission better?

Review the gospel and encourage kids to speak with you if they have questions. Then pray, acknowledging God's good and complete control over everything. Ask Him to comfort and draw near to those who are suffering.

NOTES:

4. ACTIVITIES

100% GODLY

God Controls Everything

Everything that happens in the world is controlled by God. He is the one who makes the sun rise and the wind blow. He is the one who gives us life and breath. He is the one who loves us and cares for us. He is the one who is in charge of everything.

Coloring Page: A large illustration of a man in a white robe, likely Jesus, with his arms outstretched, standing on a rocky shore. The background shows a landscape with hills and a body of water.

QUESTIONS FROM GOD!

Where do you think the wind blows from? (Job 38:1-3)

Are you the one who told the eagle where to nest? (Job 38:41)

Did you decide when the leopard falls? (Job 38:35-37)

Did you tell the sea when to rise or when to fall? (Job 38:22-27)

Can you tell the stars when to rise or when to fall? (Job 38:31-33)

Top Five | Trace or write the five things that are most important to you.

Questions from God! | Use the words from the word bank to fill in the questions and colored Job. Find the word bank.

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Can you tell the stars when to rise or when to fall? (Job 38:31-33)

WORD BANK: eagle, nest, leopard, sea, stars, wind.

Books of the New Testament Maze

Start at Matthew and follow the maze to the name under the books of the New Testament. You will have to guess your way or more directions, but only one is correct.

Maze: A complex maze with various paths leading to different book names: Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, Acts, Romans, 1 Corinthians, 2 Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, 1 Thessalonians, 2 Thessalonians, 1 Timothy, 2 Timothy, Titus, James, Hebrews, Philemon, Revelation, Jude, 3 John, 2 John, 1 John, 2 Peter, 1 Peter.

100% GODLY

GOD CONTROLS EVERYTHING

God is the one who makes the sun rise and the wind blow. He is the one who gives us life and breath. He is the one who loves us and cares for us. He is the one who is in charge of everything.

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5. CRAFTS

Color a Bible Story

THE STORY OF JOB

Job was a man who was very rich and had many children. One day, God tested Job by taking away his wealth and his children. Job was very sad, but he trusted God and did not give up on Him. In the end, God gave Job back everything and made him richer than ever before.

Coloring Pages: Several small illustrations related to the story of Job, including a man in a white robe, a man in a purple robe, a man in a blue robe, a man in a red robe, a man in a yellow robe, a man in a green robe, a man in a brown robe, a man in a black robe, a man in a white robe, a man in a purple robe, a man in a blue robe, a man in a red robe, a man in a yellow robe, a man in a green robe, a man in a brown robe, a man in a black robe.

New Testament Books of the Bible Spinner

Materials Needed:

- One copy of each of the two pages below. (You can choose color or black and white outline for your kids to color.)
- Scissors
- One Paper Brad or Round Headed Paper Fastener per child
- Crayons, Washable Markers, or Colored Pencils, if desired

Directions:

- Have your students color the templates, if desired.
- Locate the template with the two children on the front. Cut the circle out.
- Cut into the circle and remove the marked "pie piece" along the lines.
- Put the circle with the Bible book names out along the outer edge. DO NOT cut into this circle at all.
- Layer the circle with the children over the circle with the Bible Book names so that the edges match. Insert the brad or paper fastener through the black dot on the front page, fastening both circles together.
- Twist the circle to reveal the names of the Books of the New Testament in order.

To Play:

- Have kids say the names of the books of the New Testament, starting with Matthew.
- As they get familiar with the names of the books of the New Testament, see if they can remember the next name before twisting the circle. Then, twist the circle to see if they are right.
- Note: It is really helpful to memorize the books in small sections. You might start with Matthew through John. Once your kids are very familiar with these books, add Acts through 2 Corinthians. Continue until your kids know all the books of the New Testament.

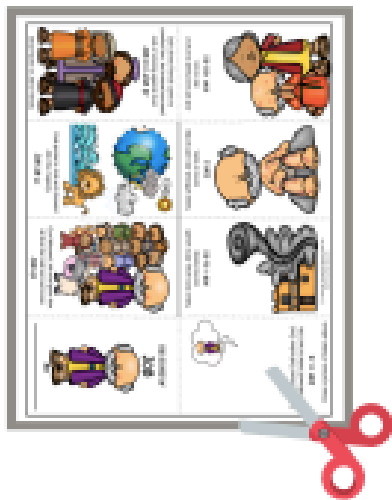
I KNOW MY BOOKS OF THE NEW TESTAMENT

Coloring Page: An illustration of two children, a girl and a boy, standing next to a Bible. The girl is holding the Bible and the boy is pointing to it. The text "I KNOW MY BOOKS OF THE NEW TESTAMENT" is written around the bottom of the illustration.

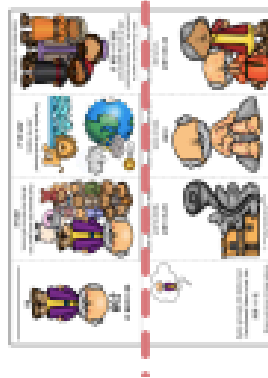
Books of the New Testament Spinner

Coloring Page: A circular spinner divided into 27 segments, each containing the name of a book of the New Testament. The segments are: Way to God, Revelation, Jude, 3 John, 2 John, 1 John, 2 Peter, 1 Peter, James, Hebrews, Philemon, Titus, 2 Timothy, 1 Timothy, Colossians, 1 Thessalonians, 2 Thessalonians, Philippians, Ephesians, Galatians, 2 Corinthians, 1 Corinthians, Romans, Acts, John, Luke, Mark, Matthew.

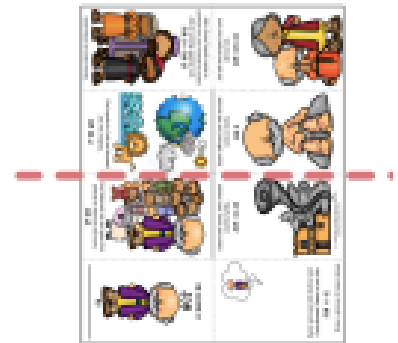
1. Cut out the mini book along the dark black lines around the exterior.



2. Fold down the vertical center line so that the pictures are on the outside. Unfold.



3. Fold down the horizontal center line so that the pictures are on the outside. Unfold. Fold again so that the pictures are on the inside and unfold.



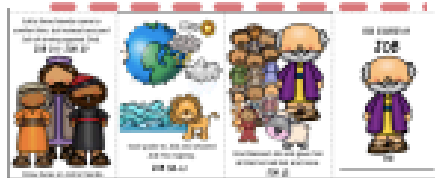
4. Flip page over so blank side is facing up. Fold edges in toward the center. Unfold.



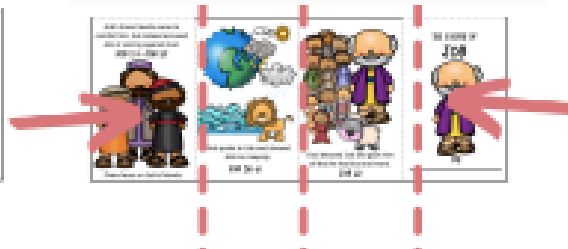
5. Flip page over so pictures are facing down and fold in half again. Cut book (through both sides) at the dark line. Unfold.



6. Fold along center line lengthwise again.



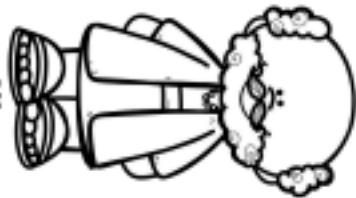
7. Push two ends of book towards each other, forcing the pages to buckle away from each other at the center line. The top of the pages will make a + shape. Crease.



8. Finish by folding the cover over. Crease along the spine.



THE STORY OF
JOB
BY _____



Satan accused Job before God.
God allowed Satan to test Job.

JOB 1:1-12

Draw a picture of Satan above.



Satan took away Job's wealth
and his family.

JOB 1:13-22



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Graphic by Ed. Opaton

Satan afflicted Job with terrible
sores or boils.

JOB 2



Job still worshiped God and
did not sin.

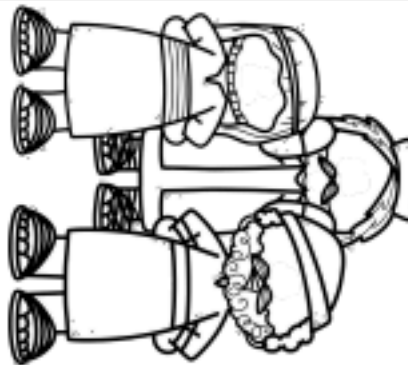
JOB 1:20-22



Job's three friends came to
comfort him, but instead accused
Job of sinning against God.

JOB 2:11-JOB 37

Draw faces on Job's friends.



God spoke to Job and showed
Job His majesty.

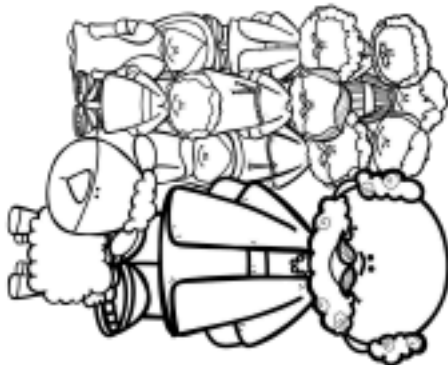
JOB 38-41

Connect the dots.



God blessed Job and gave him
all that he had lost and more.

JOB 42



New Testament Books of the Bible Spinner

Materials Needed:

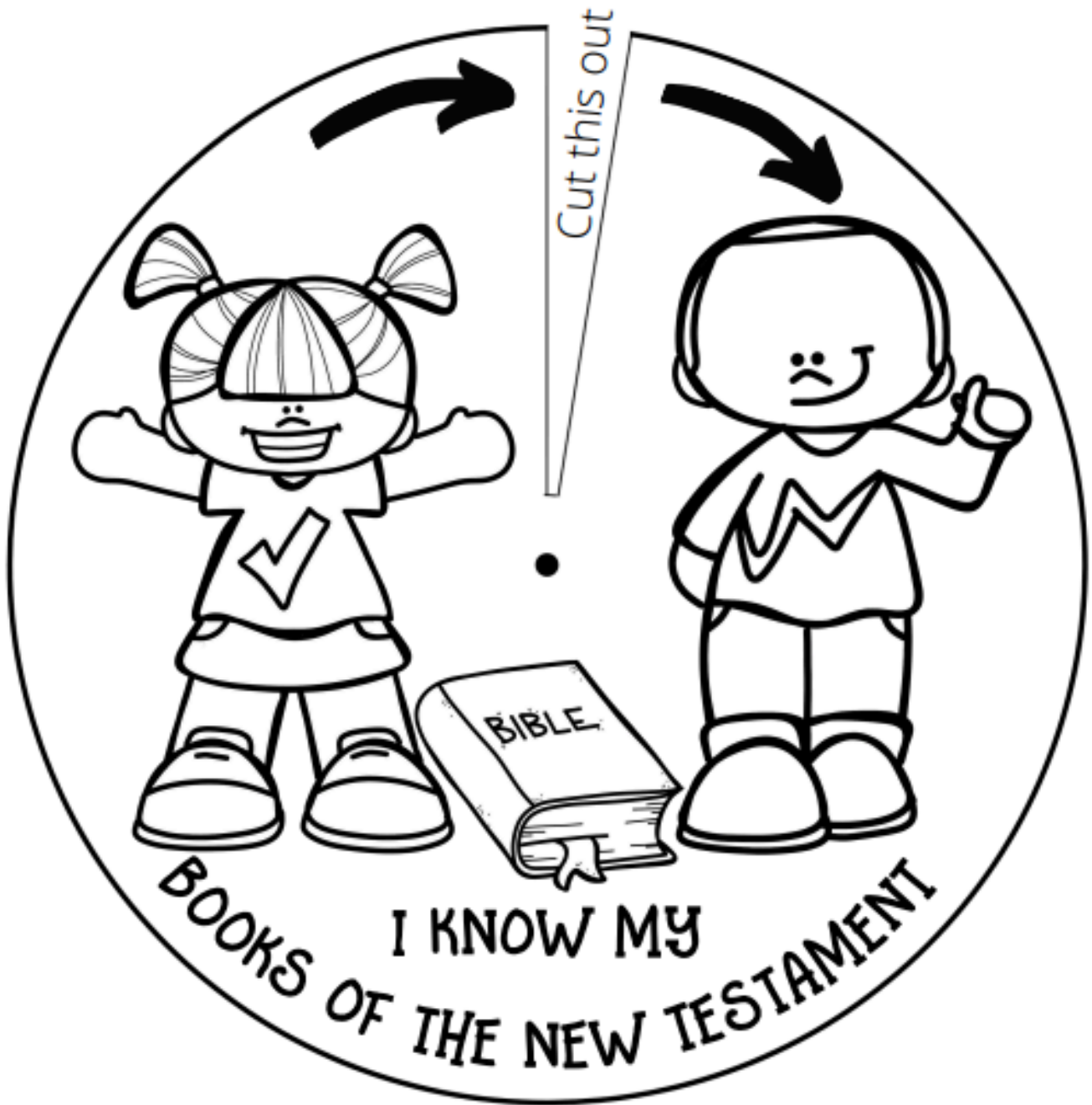
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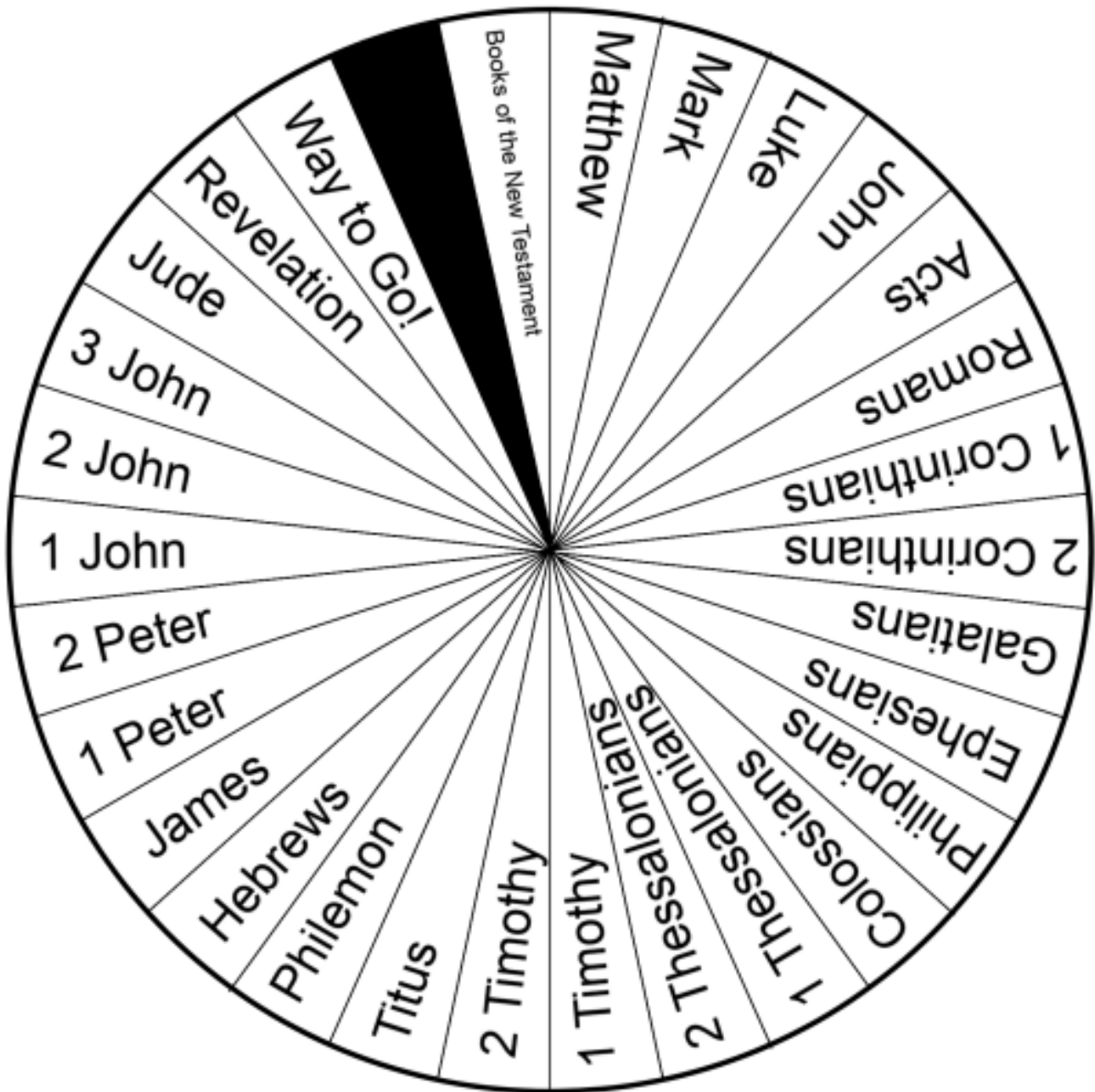
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God Controls Everything

BIBLE STORY SUMMARY:

- God had blessed Job with wealth and a large family, and Job trusted God.
- Satan claimed Job had faith only because of God's blessings to him.
- God allowed Satan to take Job's blessings and health.
- Job questioned God, but learned that God is all-powerful, sovereign, and good.

CHRIST CONNECTION:

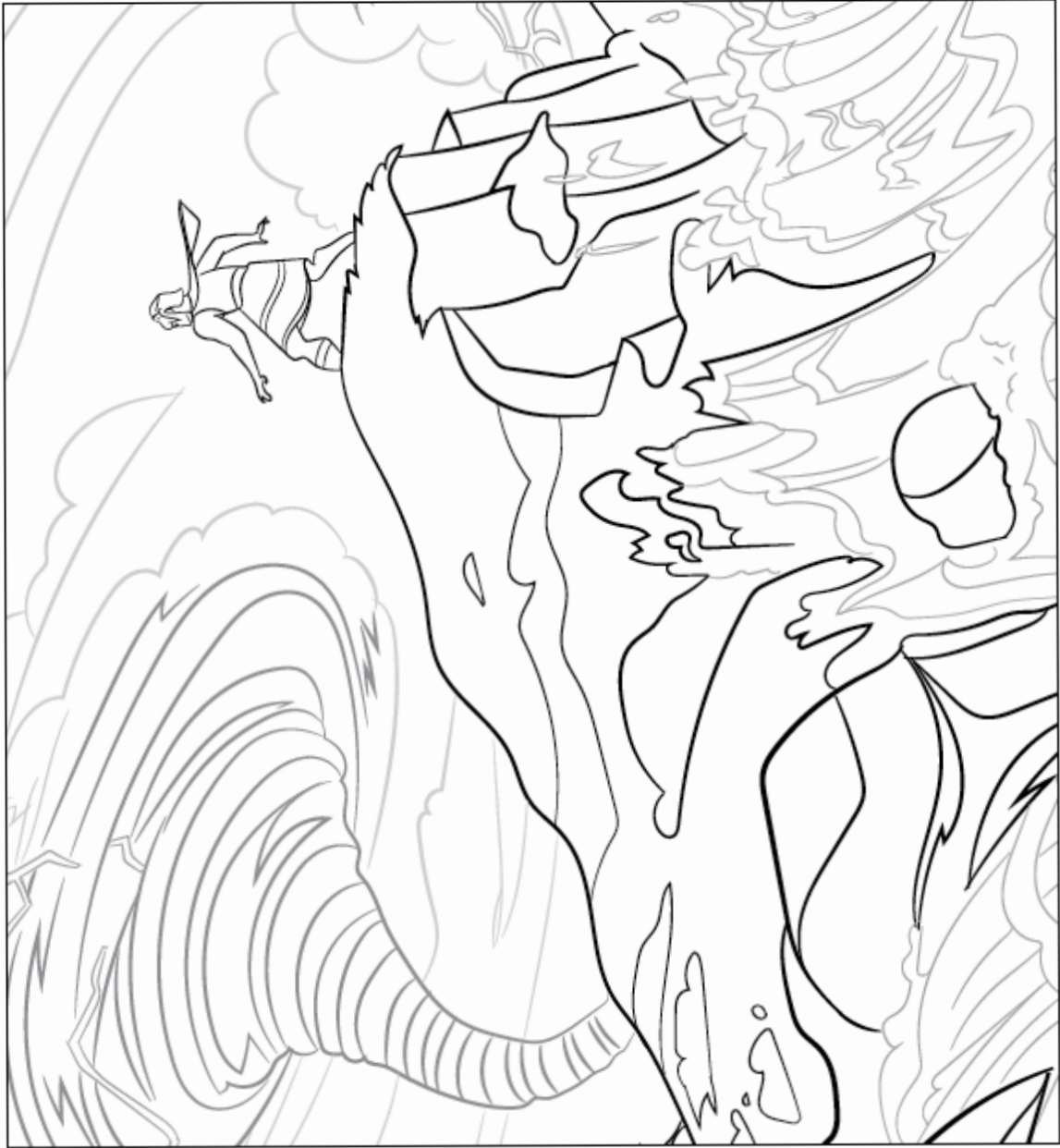
Job learned that God is all-powerful, sovereign, and good. When we face suffering, we can hope in God. God sent Jesus, the only truly innocent One, to suffer and die so that everyone who trusts in Him can have forgiveness and eternal life.

KEY PASSAGE: Psalm 135:5-6

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

Who is in control of everything? God is in control of everything in heaven and on earth. Nothing is outside of God's good plan.

NAME:



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Top Five | Draw or write five things that are most important to you.



Questions from God | Use the words from the word bank to fill in the questions God asked Job. Find the verse in your Bible to check your work.

Were you there when I made the _____ ? (Job 38:5)

Are you the one who told the _____ where to stop? (Job 38:8,11)

Did you decide when the _____ would rise or when _____ would fall? (Job 38:12,22)

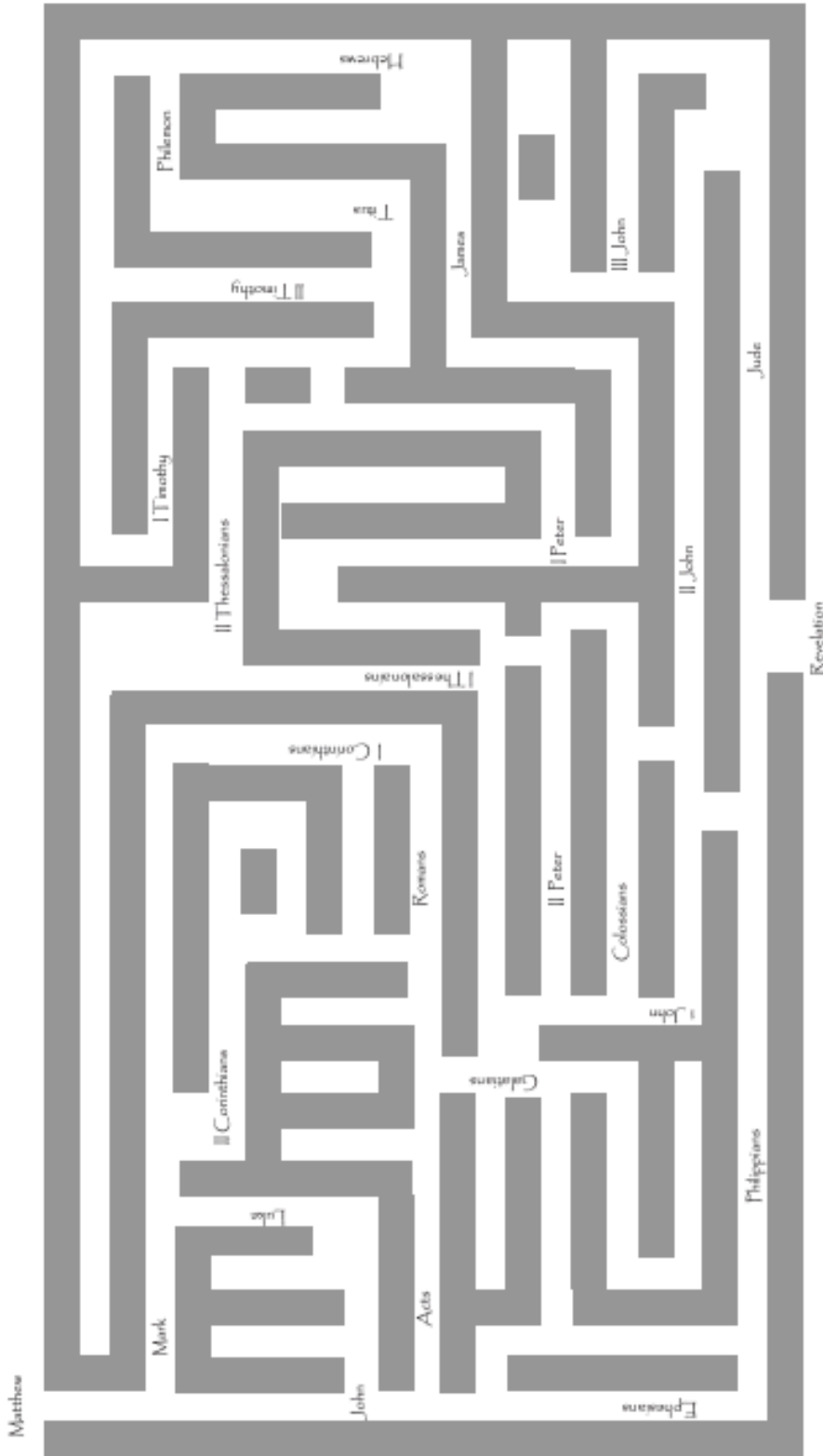
Did you put the _____ in the sky? (Job 38:31-32)

Can you tell the _____ when to fly in the sky? (Job 39:27)

WORD BANK

- eagles
- earth
- sea
- snow
- stars
- sun

Books of the New Testament Maze



Start at Matthew and follow the maze in the same order as the books of the New Testament. Each book gives you two or more choices, but only one is correct.

Learn For Your Life

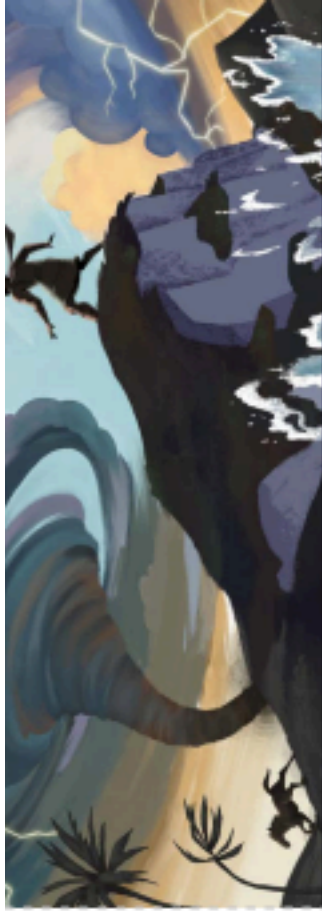
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2019



JOURNAL PAGE

1. What does this story teach me about God or the gospel?
2. What does this story teach me about myself?
3. Are there any commands in this story to obey? How are they for God's glory and my good?
4. Are there any promises in this story to remember? How do they help me trust and love God?
5. How does this story help me to live on mission better?



Unit 3 • Session 6

GOD CONTROLS EVERYTHING

Job

WHO IS IN CONTROL OF EVERYTHING? GOD IS IN CONTROL OF EVERYTHING IN HEAVEN AND ON EARTH. NOTHING IS OUTSIDE OF GOD'S GOOD PLAN.

Job loved God and wanted to follow God's plan. One day, God's enemy, Satan, went to God.

"Job only follows You because You protect him and bless him," Satan said. "If You take away everything Job has, he won't follow You anymore."

So God gave Satan permission to take away everything Job had, but Satan was not allowed to hurt Job. Satan sent men to steal Job's animals. He caused Job's children to die. In one day, Job lost everything. Job was very sad, but he still followed God.

Satan came to God again. God gave Satan permission to make Job sick, but God did not let Satan kill Job.

Three of Job's friends visited Job. They said, "Job, if you do what is right and stop sinning, God will give you back everything you lost."

"I haven't done anything wrong," Job said. Then a man named Elihu explained, "God always does what is right."

Finally, God spoke to Job through a whirlwind. "Were you there when I made the earth? Did you put the stars in the sky? Can you tell the eagles when to fly?" Job could not completely understand God's plans, but he could trust God. God is all-powerful, sovereign, and good. Job was sorry for doubting God. God gave Job back everything he had lost—and so much more.

Christ Connection: Job learned that God is all-powerful, sovereign, and good. When we face suffering, we can hope in God. God sent Jesus, the only truly innocent One, to suffer and die so that everyone who trusts in Him can have forgiveness and eternal life.