

**Introduction:**

1. The problem of evil and suffering in the world
2. God is watching. Satan is watching. Others are watching.

**TEXT: Job 1:1-2:10****A. Winners are Watched by God (1:1-5)**

1. God who watches us knows the details about our life.
2. You can be righteous by God's standards, you can be great in material riches, you can have a godly and happy family—if like Job, you are a devout worshipper of God and a devout spiritual example to your children, because of your faith in God.

**B. Winners are Watched by Satan**

Hard lessons regarding Satan. God permits Satan to test your faith.

1. Satan can hurt you, but he cannot kill you without God's permission (1:6-12).
2. Satan can incite people to take away your material assets (1:13-17).
3. Satan can use natural disaster to kill your children (1:18-19).
4. Satan can afflict you with horrible sickness (2:4-8).
  - a. **Good news:** From the ashes of his burned-down wealth and his ten dead children, Job rose up a winner because he did not lose his faith in God, in spite of his sufferings (1:20-22).
  - b. **More good news:** From the ashes of all his losses—losing all his wealth, losing all his ten children, and losing the moral support of his wife, Job overcame Satan and sin because he did not give up his faith in God, in spite of all his troubles (2:9-10)

**C. Winners are Watched by Others**

1. The significant others who watched Job and distanced themselves from him
  - a. Job's wife (2:10)
  - b. Job's relatives and servants (19:14-19)
  - c. Job's intimate friends (Chapters 4-37)

2. God spoke to Job after debating with his friends (Chapter s 38-42), and Job's reply to God (42:1. 6).
3. God instructed Job to pray for his friends before restoring his blessings (42:7-8).
4. The happy ending of Job's story (42:10-16).

**Conclusion:** Job's secret as a winner that we can apply to ourselves.

1. Job's relentless worship of God that was not affected by his tragic losses ( 1:20-22).
2. Job's enduring hope and faith in God that sustained him in his times of crisis (13:15; 19:25-27).
3. **Winning Affirmation:** I want God, Satan, and others to see me as a winner in Christ, for the glory of God."

**TABLETALK STARTERS** (For family devotions and Life Group discussions)**Read: Job 1:1-5**

1. God knows the details about your life.
  - a. What details?
  - b. Why do these details concern you?
  - c. What is the ideal life pictured by these verses?

**Read: Job 2:8-11**

2. What ulterior motive did Satan assign to Job for his blessings?
3. How does the acquisition of God' blessings become an ulterior motive for being a devout follower of God that we must guard ourself against?

**Read: Job 2:9-10; 19:14-19**

4. What could others—even those close to us—do to us in our times of distressing trials?

**Read: Job 1:20-22; 13:15; 42:10-16**

5. What is Job's secret as a winner that applies to our life today?

**PRAY**