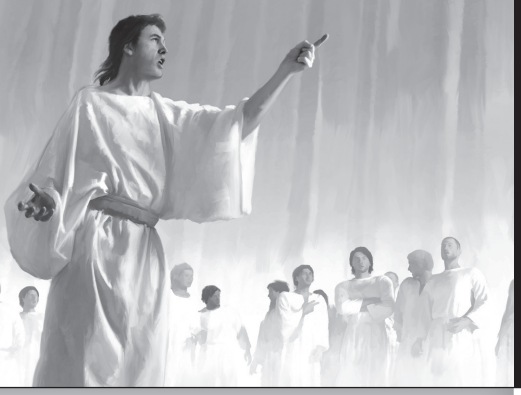


2

Grace
We find comfort in God's grace.

POWER TEXT

"And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast" (1 Peter 5:10).

KEY REFERENCES

- Job 1; 2
- *The Great Controversy*, chap. 36, pp. 582-592
- *Education*, chap. 16, pp. 154, 155
- *The Bible Story* (1994), vol. 6, pp. 161-168
- Student story on page 32 of this guide

OUR BELIEFS

- No. 8, The Great Controversy
- No. 3, The Father
- No. 11, Growing in Christ

OBJECTIVES

The students will:

- **Know** that God's love for them is steadfast whatever their circumstances.
- **Feel** protected by God's wise and secure love at all times.
- **Respond** by praising God that their lives are in His hands.

God on Trial

POWERPOINT

We trust in God even when we suffer.

The Bible Lesson at a Glance

The essential theme of the great controversy (and Job's story) is that God is for us and Satan is against us. In these introductory chapters to Job's story we see clearly that Satan is our adversary. God knows His people well. He protects us by placing limitations around Satan's activities. He patiently helps us grow through all of life's struggles.

This is a lesson about grace.

We can praise God knowing that whatever our circumstances, He is with us. Nothing we or anyone else can do can change His love for us.

Teacher Enrichment

"The book of Job is a poem of human experience, with a prophet of God as its author. . . . The obvious setting of Job is that of Arabian Desert culture. Strangely enough, it is not an Israelitish setting. There were worshipers of God outside the confines of Abraham's descendants. The setting is not political, military, or ecclesiastical. Rather, Job emerges from a domestic background, common to his age. He was a wealthy landowner, honored and loved by his countrymen. He can be identified with no dynasty or ruling clan. He stands out, a lone, majestic figure in history, important because of his personal experience rather than because of his relationship to his time or to his contemporaries" (*The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*, vol. 3, pp. 493, 494).

"He [Satan] uses all his power to control the elements as far as God allows. When he was suffered to afflict Job, how quickly flocks and herds, servants, houses, children, were swept away, one trouble succeeding another as in a moment. It is God that shields His creatures and hedges them in from the power of the destroyer" (*The Great Controversy*, p. 589).

When has Satan attempted to attack/tempt me? How did God protect me during that time? How can I praise God throughout these times?

Welcome

Welcome students at the door and direct them to their seats. Ask them how their week has been. Encourage learners to study their Sabbath School lesson regularly, and use several minutes to debrief students on the previous week's lesson. Ask: **What was the most interesting part of the Bible story? What activity did you find the most helpful? Which activity was the most fun?** Invite students to share their experiences and/or the handiworks they created for Sabbath School during the week. (The leader should be familiar with the previous lesson to be able to direct the discussion.) This is also a good time to have students recite the power text.

Have students begin the Readiness Activity of your choice.

Program notes

LESSON SECTION	MINUTES	ACTIVITIES	MATERIALS NEEDED
Welcome	Ongoing	Greet students at the door. Ask about their week.	
1 Readiness	10-15	*A. Introducing . . . Me!* *B. Musical Message*	Bibles, paper, pens/pencils
* Prayer & Praise	15-20	See page 27. Prayer & Praise may be used at any time during the program.	songbooks, world map, pushpins, gift box with slit; colored strips of paper, glue, tape OR staples, pens/pencils, OR markers
2 Bible Lesson	15-20	Introducing the Bible Story Experiencing the Story Exploring the Bible	three copies of *Net Kids* script (p. 146) Bibles Bibles, white/chalkboard, markers/chalk, paper, pencils/pens
3 Applying the Lesson	10-15	*Job's Quilt*	four sheets of colored paper for each group, four smaller sheets of white paper for each group, markers
4 Sharing the Lesson	10-15	*Positive Notes*	notepaper, pens/pencils
* Closing		A. Prayer and Closing Comments B. Reminder to Parents C. Next Week's Lesson	

1

READINESS ACTIVITIES

Select the activity or activities that are most appropriate for your situation.

A

Introducing . . . Me!

If you have a large class (more than 25), divide the students into groups of about 12 each.

Say: **You are to introduce yourself and how you feel by using a word starting with the first letter of your name. For example, the first person begins by saying "My name is Vikki, and I came to Sabbath School feeling Vivacious" . . . and so on around the group.**

Alternative: Have the students repeat the names and descriptions of all those before—so the last person has to repeat everyone else's name first. It would go like this: "Hello, Vivacious Vikki, Dreamy Deena, and Patient Pat—my name is Carol, and I came to Sabbath School feeling Carefree."

Debriefing

Ask: **Did you feel that the adjective you gave yourself fit? Why or why not? How do you think God feels when you describe yourself in a positive way compared to when you describe yourself in a negative way?** Say: **The reason we recognize negative things or weaknesses in our lives is that we live in a sinful world. The sin and suffering that is present in our world is a consequence of Lucifer's rebellion and the fall of the first human beings. However, the good news is that no matter how we feel about ourselves, God still loves us. He has even promised to restore us to all He intended for us to be. Let's say our power text together, 1 Peter 5:10:**

"And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast" (1 Peter 5:10).

Say: **Our power point this week is:**

We trust in God even when we suffer.

B

YOU NEED:

- ☐ Bibles
- ☐ paper
- ☐ pens/pencils

Musical Message

Divide the students into groups of four. Groups should choose one person as leader and another as scribe. Give each group one of the following texts to find and read together. Then they are to make up a verse for the song "God Is So Good," which expresses what the Bible verse is trying to say.

Deuteronomy 1:30
Psalm 3:5
Psalm 46:1
Malachi 3:11
Matthew 6:8
Romans 8:32

Ask each group to read their text and then sing their verse of the song for the rest of the students.

Debriefing

Say: **Although as a consequence of Adam and Eve's fall sin and suffering entered into our world, the good news is that God provided a solution to save and restore us through the sacrifice of Jesus. Based on what we just read, what do you think God is willing to do for you personally and for us collectively?** (Encourage answers based on the texts just read and discussion of practical applications of these principles.)

Say: **Let's say together our power text, 1 Peter 5:10:**

"And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast" (1 Peter 5:10).

Say: **Our power point this week is:**

We trust in God even when we suffer.

Prayer & Praise

Fellowship

Report the students' joys and sorrows (pleased and troubled) as reported to you at the door (as appropriate). If they have given you permission, share one or two special items from students' Bible study during the week. Acknowledge any birthdays, special events, or achievements. Give a special, warm greeting to all visitors.

Suggested Songs

"You Are My Hiding Place" (*He Is Our Song*, no. 96)
"In His Time" (*He Is Our Song*, no. 93)

Mission

YOU NEED:
- ☐ world map
- ☐ pushpins

Use *Adventist Mission for Youth and Adults* (go to www.juniorpowerpoints.org and click on MISSION) or another mission report available to you. Using a world map, have the students identify and mark with pushpins the location where the mission story is taking place.

Offering

YOU NEED:
- ☐ gift box

Say: **Because God first loved us, we are happy to show our love to Him through our offerings. We'll never be able to repay Him, and He doesn't need us to repay Him. He just wants us to spread the good news of His love to others.**

Prayer

YOU NEED:
- ☐ prayer-chain materials

Distribute the materials for the students to create a prayer chain. Have the students pray silently as they write and attach their links to the chain. Close with a prayer for the students' joys and sorrows, for the birthday and other special event celebrants, as well as for the visitors.

Notes

2

BIBLE LESSON

YOU NEED:
- ☐ three copies of *Net Kids* script (p. 146)

Introducing the Bible Story

***The* Net Kids**

(Note: The *Net Kids* are an imaginative way to introduce the Bible story. If you prefer not to use this imaginary element, read over the script yourself and introduce the lesson concept in your own words.) You will need scripts for up to six students, simulated computers, and name tags and/or flags with the names of the Net Kids on them.

You can either have them memorize the parts a week ahead or give them the script to be read Sabbath morning.

Scripts for duplication are found at the end of this guide. Introduce the *Net Kids* to your class.

Say: **The Net Kids are an international group of children ages 11-14 who communicate regularly through e-mail. Emiko and Darren met in a teen Christian chat room and found out that they were both Seventh-day Adventists. They then created a chat room for Adventist juniors and teens and the other four joined. They get together as often as they can via the Internet.**

Ulla: **11-year-old girl from Sweden**
Ivan: **12-year-old boy from Russia**
Tendai: **12-year-old boy from Zimbabwe**
Ana: **13-year-old girl from U.S.A.**
Darren: **13-year-old boy from Australia**
Emiko: **14-year-old girl from Japan**

Arrange the students at desks, or at chairs turned around as desks if no desks are available. Have them tap as they read their part, to simulate typing at a computer keyboard. Make three copies of the *Net Kids* script found on page 146 of this guide. Distribute to the students you have selected and allow practice time before this activity. Present the skit.

Debriefing

Ask: **Have you ever had a day when you felt that you wanted to hide from everyone?** Say: **Job had several days like that.**

We trust in God even when we suffer.

YOU NEED:
- ☐ Bibles

Experiencing the Story

Ask volunteers to read dramatically chapters 1 and 2 from the book of Job.

Debriefing

Say: **Why do you think God allowed Satan to bother Job?** (To prove that Job served Him out of love, not fear.) **Do you think Job knew what God and Satan were doing?** (No. He was as clueless as we are today when faced with suffering.) **How do you think he felt?** (abandoned, puzzled, despairing, faithful, trusting)

How do you think you would have felt? Have you or anyone you know ever been in a situation like Job's, in which everything seems to be going wrong? How did you or that person feel?

In spite of all the harm Satan was allowed to do to Job, what restriction did God put on Satan? (He couldn't kill Job; he had to spare Job's life.) **Why do you think God did that?** (To let Satan know that He was still in control. Killing Job wouldn't have proved anything. God loved Job too much not to protect him in some way.)

Say: **Our power point this week reminds that**

We trust in God even when we suffer.

3

APPLYING THE LESSON

Exploring the Bible

YOU NEED:
- ☐ Bibles
- ☐ white/chalkboard
- ☐ markers/chalk
- ☐ paper
- ☐ pencils/pens

Write the texts used in Readiness Activity B where all can see. Deuteronomy 1:30; Psalm 3:5; Psalm 46:1; Malachi 3:11; Matthew 6:8; Romans 8:32.

Have students form small groups, each with an adult facilitator, if possible. Each group should designate a scribe who will write the texts on paper. The students will then find and read the texts, deciding as a group how this text would have been of comfort to Job.

Say: **Let's say together our power text, 1 Peter 5:10:**

"And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast" (1 Peter 5:10).

Say: **We are reminded in our power point that**

We trust in God even when we suffer.

Accommodations for students with special needs
Have students with visual impairments sit close to the board for this activity. Alternatively, have a handout for them with the list of Bible references.

Job's Quilt

YOU NEED:
- ☐ four sheets of colored paper for each group
- ☐ four smaller sheets of white paper for each group
- ☐ markers

Divide the students into groups of four. Distribute the paper squares and markers to each group. Have each group discuss how the story of Job and the texts that they have studied today apply to their lives. Ask each group to produce a set of four pictures (drawn on white paper and then mounted on colored paper) depicting their conclusions. They could be pictures representing an event in the life of a person their age, or just a sequence depicting God's protection and care.

When each group has completed their series, have them mount them on a designated wall or large sheet of paper. If possible, mount each group's pictures to resemble a quilt.

Debriefing

Ask: **How was Job's life like a quilt?** (He couldn't see the whole pattern at any one point in his life. He had to trust that God would make sense out of the whole thing.) **How are our lives like quilts?** (Same basic reasons.)

Say: **Usually humans can't see the whole pattern of God's care and protection. But we can trust Him.**

Say: **Our power point reminds us that**

We trust in God even when we suffer.

Accommodation for students with special needs
Guide students with special needs to groups that offer them assistance in participation. Identify their skills and encourage these students to contribute in ways that allow them to experience success.

4

SHARING THE LESSON

YOU NEED:
- ☐ notepaper
- ☐ pens/pencils

Positive Notes

Allow time for students to share with the class if they had the opportunity to encourage someone who is facing a crisis situation by referring to Job's experience.

Say: **Think of someone who is going through a very discouraging situation. With the insight you gained from the story of Job, write a short note to that person giving him/her encouragement that God still loves him/her. Include our power point, power text, or some of the promises we studied today. Let's say together our power text, 1 Peter 5:10:**

"And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast" (1 Peter 5:10).

Ask the students to share their notes with the people to whom they were addressed.

Say: **Our power point helps us understand that**

We trust in God even when we suffer.

Closing

Prayer and closing comments:

Ask God to help the students remember that He is in control and will work out all things, both good and bad, for their good in the end.

Reminder to parents:

Say: **Check out the student Bible study guide to find Parents' Pages for your use in family worship, or however you wish to use them to spiritually guide your children. You may listen to the podcast of the lesson online at www.juniorpowerpoints.org/podcast.php?channel=1.**

Coming up next week:

Say: **Job misunderstands who God is. God wants us to know that His love for us never changes.**

NOTE: Give each student a photocopy of "A Mighty Fortress" (*The Seventh-day Adventist Hymnal*, no. 506) to use when called for in their daily Bible study activities next week.

Notes

Student lesson

God on Trial

Have you ever been in the middle of a dispute? How did it feel? This week we'll take a peek at a celestial dispute and the amazing outcome.

It was time for the celestial council meeting with all of God's heavenly subjects. Satan, self-appointed prince of the earth, also showed up at the meeting. He was the one who had caused war in heaven. Now he was back.

"Where have you come from?" God asked.

"From roaming throughout the earth," replied Satan.

"Have you considered my servant Job? There is no one on earth like him; he is loyal and honest. He fears me and doesn't want anything to do with evil."

"Does Job fear [You] for nothing?" Satan asked. "Have you not put a hedge around him and his household and everything he has? You have blessed the work of his hands, so that his flocks and herds are spread throughout the land. But now stretch out your hand and strike everything he has, and he will surely curse you to your face."

"Very well, then," God said, "everything he has is in your power, but on the man himself do not lay a finger" (Job 1:7-12).

Satan didn't waste any time. He returned to Planet Earth, thinking to himself that Job would surely deny God when he would experience loss, heartache, and grief.

One day Job was at home thinking about how grateful he was to God for all that he had—houses, land, livestock, good health, family. Suddenly a messenger burst through the door, crying, "Master, I'm so sorry to bring you bad news. A group of outsiders, Sabeans, attacked. They stole your livestock from the fields and killed all your servants except me."

The servant hadn't even finished speaking when another messenger came running.

"Master, it was horrible!" he said, falling at Job's feet. "Fire fell from the sky, and all of your sheep and servants were burned up. I'm the only one who escaped to tell you."

A third messenger arrived.

"Master, the Chaldeans have stolen your camels and killed your servants!" he exclaimed. "Only I escaped!"

When a fourth messenger arrived, Job quickly thought, *What now?*

"Master, I have terrible news to tell you," the messenger said, weeping. "All of your sons and daughters were having a party at your oldest son's home. Suddenly a big wind came in from the desert and hit the house. It collapsed, and everyone died. I'm the only one left from the household."

Up until this time Job had neither said nor done anything. Now he tore his robe and shaved his head in mourning. Then, to his servants' surprise, he fell on the ground and worshipped God.

Satan, who had been watching with satisfaction, frowned as he witnessed Job's faithfulness. He decided to change Job's test at the next council meeting.

God was ready for Satan. "Have you considered my servant Job? There is no one on earth like him; he is blameless and upright, a man who fears God and shuns evil. And he still maintains his integrity, though you incited me against him to ruin him without any reason."

"Skin for skin!" Satan replied. "A man will give all he has for his own life. But now stretch out your hand and strike his flesh and bones, and he will surely curse you to your face."

"Very well, then," the Lord replied to Satan. "He is in your hands; but you must spare his life" (Job 2:3-6).

Satan caused Job to be covered with itchy, painful sores from the top of his head to the bottom of his feet. The sores oozed and then developed horrible scabs that left deep scars. Job sat hour after hour in the ashes, mourning his dead children and scraping his sores.

Finally his wife said to him, "Are you still maintaining your integrity? Curse God and die!" (verse 9).

But Job wouldn't say anything against God. Instead he asked, "Shall we accept good from God, and not trouble?" (verse 10).

Although Job had many questions, he believed that God could use anything that happened to him for good—even if the purpose was to show the world Satan's evil workings. Thus people would acknowledge God's loving character and would learn to trust Him. Job trusted in God's loving care.

KEY REFERENCES

- Job 1; 2
- *The Great Controversy*, chap. 36, pp. 582-592
- *Education*, chap. 16, pp. 154, 155
- *The Bible Story* (1994), vol. 6, pp. 161-168
- Our Beliefs, nos. 8, 3, 11

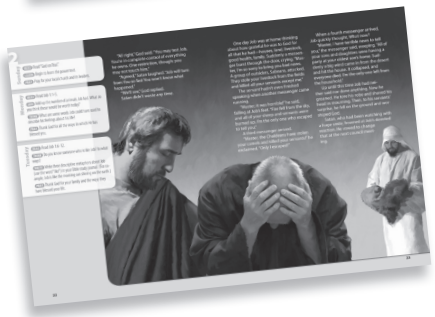
POWER TEXT

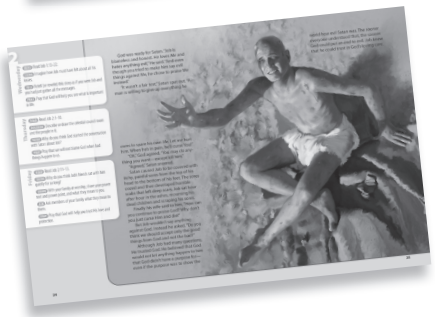
"And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast" (1 Peter 5:10).

POWER POINT

We trust in God even when we suffer.







Sabbath

DO Do the activity on page 19.

Sunday

READ Read Job 1:1-3 and this week's lesson, "God on Trial."

LEARN Begin to memorize the power text.

PRAY Pray for your local church and its leaders.

Monday

READ Read Job 1:4, 5.

THINK Why did Job pray for his family? How can you be more intentional about praying for your family and friends? Whom could you ask to be your prayer partner?

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Thank God for all the ways in which He has blessed you.

Tuesday

READ Read Job 1:6-12.

THINK Do you know someone who is like Job? In what ways?

HELP Encourage someone who is struggling or experiencing a crisis situation.

WRITE In your Bible study journal, write three descriptive metaphors about Job's faithfulness to God (using the word "like"). (For example, Job is like a tree growing next to rivers of water, whose roots go deep into the moist soil and whose leaves do not wither.)

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Thank God for your family members and the ways they have blessed your life.

Wednesday

READ Read Job 1:13-22.

THINK Imagine how Job must have felt about all his losses.

WRITE In your Bible study journal, write how you would have responded if you had lost everything, as Job did.

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Ask God to help you see what is important in life.

Thursday

READ Read Job 2:1-10.

THINK Why do you think God pointed out to Satan Job's blameless character? Why does God delight in people who do His will in spite of evil influences in the world?

REVIEW Review the power text.

PRAY Ask God to remind you of Job's faithfulness and to help you trust Him when bad things happen to you.

Friday

READ Read Job 2:11-13.

THINK Why do you think Job's friends sat with him quietly for so long?

SHARE At family worship, share your power text from memory and tell what it means to you.

ASK Ask members of your family to describe in their own words what the power text means to them.

PRAY Pray that God will help you trust His love and protection.