

**Women's Bible Study**  
**Study Questions for October 11, 2017**  
**How to Suffer Honorably – Job 21 and 31 – Gretchen Steer**

**Key verse: “And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh I will see God; I myself will see him with my own eyes – I, and not another. How my heart yearns within me!” (Job 19:26-27)**

1. Describe in two sentences what has happened so far in Job 1 – 37. It's a lot of chapters, but try to condense it into two sentences.

2. Job's friends were well meaning but hopeless as comforters. Mostly they found different ways to say that Job was being punished for sinning. Can you name four different reasons that people suffer? If you're stuck, try these passages: Genesis 3:17-19; John 9:3; Acts 9:15-16; Romans 5:3; Romans 1:18-19. Is it ever appropriate to speculate on why someone is suffering?

3. It is easy to lose perspective when we ourselves are suffering. What characterizes a godly response to suffering? Look up Luke 22:41-44; Acts 5:41; James 1:2-3 for some ideas. What biblical advice would you give to a Christian who is really struggling with personal suffering?

4. Why does it matter to anyone else how a Christian suffers? Is it anyone's business but their own? Why or why not? What happens when people are willing to suffer and die for their faith? Read Philippians 2:14-18 and describe Paul's effect on the Philippian believers. Look up Acts 8:1. What was the result of the scattering of believers?

5. How did Job show integrity in the way he suffered? Look up Job 1:20-22; Job 2:9-10; Job 9:14-15; Job 21:1-3. What specific responses did he make when he was suffering?

6. Job displayed some flashes of anger, primarily against his friends who misunderstood him, but occasionally against God. Is it ever right to remain angry with God? Why or why not?

**Women's Bible Study**  
**Discussion Questions for October 11, 2017**  
**How to Suffer Honorably – Job 21 and 31 – Gretchen Steer**

1. What's your typical response to a suffering person? Is it sympathy, empathy, a desire to flee, a desire to help? Are you more likely to get involved if the person is suffering mentally (grief, betrayal, depression) or physically? (pain or illness)?
  
2. What was Jesus' response to suffering people? Look up Luke 7:12-14 and Luke 18:35-43. Given the fact that we cannot heal people or change the situation as Jesus did, what can we do towards sufferers to show that we care? As Christians, what should we do if we honestly fail to feel compassion towards others who deserve compassion? Come up with some practical ways to strengthen a compassionate heart towards others.
  
3. How did Job show integrity in the way he suffered? Give examples, and if you're stuck, look up Job 1:20-22; Job 2:9-10; Job 9:14-15; Job 21:1-3. How could a modern day person show integrity in suffering? Give examples.
  
4. Why does it matter how a Christian suffers? Is it anyone's business but their own? Now give an example of a Christian, modern day or historical, who inspired you by the way they suffered. Why has this person's life affected you? Now think of Jesus, and look up Isaiah 53:7 as a description of the suffering servant. Does this mean that we should never admit when we are suffering?
  
5. In his speeches Job expresses occasional anger, a desire to be vindicated in other's eyes, despair over continuing to live and a longing to know why he is suffering. Taking them one by one, how could those reactions be considered honorable?