

# **FAMILY DEVOTION :: PRIME : MISFITS**

## **LESSON 2 :: PUT ON YOUR 'BIG BOY' PANTS**

According to national government data, the city of Mount Washington in New Hampshire was the cloudiest city in 2008. The city had 244 cloudy days out of 365. Mount Washington is not a sunny city. So what does this mean about the sun? From the perspective of a Mount Washington resident, one might think that the sun doesn't shine there most of the year. But that wouldn't really be true. Even on cloudy days, the sun is present, shining just as bright and powerful behind the clouds as when the skies are clear.

Read Job 38:1–41 and 40:1–8 together as a family. Job had everything taken away from him. His home, family, and health were gone. His friends insisted that he had done something wrong to deserve this tragedy, but Job continued to defend his integrity. Then God spoke. God revealed Himself in His majesty and power out of the storm. While Job felt alone in his devastating circumstances, God had been present all along and now made Himself known. Through a series of questions, God challenged Job's understanding of God, not Job's integrity. Starting with the beginning of creation, God questioned if Job knew how creation worked. From the dimensions of the earth and sea to the details of the skies and animal life, God asked Job if he knew how these were formed and sustained. Job couldn't answer. He was in speechless awe of God's wonderful greatness and mighty power. Job acknowledged that he was unworthy to justify himself before the Creator and Sustainer of all things.

Despite the heavy clouds of Job's dark situation, God was present, and His glory continued to shine. Like Job, we might be in very difficult situations, and we usually want to know why. But also like Job, we need to first learn that God is present, having always been there. Whatever our situation, God is with us. He has revealed Himself in His Word and in Jesus. With Job we get a lesson about who God is. God is the Creator and Sustainer of all things, including us. Nothing can overcome God. Nothing can prevent God from fulfilling His purposes. In light of who God is, we learn who we are. Before the great God who is worthy of all our wonder and admiration, we should have a posture of humility. In humble perseverance we can trust in God and His ways—not based on whether they make sense to us but simply because He is God.

### **CONNECTION QUESTIONS**

1. How does this passage shape your understanding of God?
2. How does your understanding of God affect your understanding of yourself?
3. In what areas of your life do you most want to have control? How does your relationship with God affect your perspective on these areas?
4. Job responds with humility and awe before God. How does Job's response compare with how you typically respond when you are in a difficult situation?
5. How is Job's response an example for us?

# MISFITS