



Rock Creek Baptist Church
Oct 8, 2017

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Lifting up others in the midst of suffering
- Job 2
Some tools to help you help others
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Story: Bertha's road trip

Summary about Job 1: Job was a righteous God follower who made sacrifices for his children and was well off. He lost his children and all of his possessions when the Satan put his faith to the test. Regardless, he still would not blame it on God or curse God.

Video: Job's wife

St. Augustine called Job's wife the devil's helper
It is common to look down on Job's wife. We might even associate her with the following verses:

Proverbs 21:9

Better to live on a corner of the roof than share a house with a quarrelsome wife.

Proverbs 21:19

Better to live in a desert than with a quarrelsome and nagging wife.

Job and his wife are one. An attack on him is an attack on her. And these are also her children that have died, her "checking account" that has been emptied. Her family business too that has folded.

She probably just wants the nightmare to end

Story: praying for the suffering to live another day versus praying God either heal them or take them in peace

Job's wife has a "surefire" plan for God assisted suicide, curse God and let Him kill you, at least you'll be done suffering! But Job holds onto his integrity

Job 2:7-10

So Satan went out from the presence of the LORD and afflicted Job with painful sores from the soles of his feet to the crown of his head. Then Job took a piece of broken pottery and scraped himself with it as he sat among the ashes. His wife said to him, "Are you still maintaining your integrity? Curse God and die!" He replied, "You are talking like a foolish woman. Shall we accept good from God, and not trouble?" In all this, Job did not sin in what he said.

Job's wife might mean well but she is playing into the devil's hands
She might look at her righteous husband and think it's all been for nothing
How could this have gone better? What SHOULD she have done? How can we be there for our spouse or other loved one in the midst of their suffering?

1) Pray with them

Romans 8:26-27

In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God.

2) Be present

Story: sitting up with a widow and her dead husband

You don't have to show up with the right words, sometimes you just need to show up

3) Ask what they need, but if you know for sure what it is don't make them ask, jump in to help

4) Learn their "Love Language"

Words of Affirmation

Acts of Service

Receiving Gifts

Quality Time

Physical Touch

5) Remember in marriage that the 50/50 rule is WRONG! Sometimes you give 90% because all they can give that day is 10%.

6) Give permission to feel and express emotions, don't invalidate emotions you wouldn't yourself feel. Never say "I understand" because you don't. Listen and seek to grow in understanding. Have your spouses back...even if they are wrong public is not the place to tell them.

7) Problem solving: there is a time to help "fix it" and there is a time to set the tool bag down and just listen.

In Summary: In the midst of all the suffering and all of these tools, ask yourself if you are guiding your loved one closer to Christ in the midst of their suffering or are you subconsciously focused on your own discomfort with this? Job's wife didn't point him to Jesus, she tried to put an end to the pain another way.

Romans 12:15

Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn.

Philippians 2:3

Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves,

Matthew 5:41

If anyone forces you to go one mile, go with them two miles.

Are you trying to fix the problem so you won't feel uncomfortable? Or can you just be present?

Will you pray with them?

Are you showing them support in the way you prefer it or in the way that really reaches them where they are?

Are you expecting them to "pull their weight?" Or can you recognize that this might be one of those 90/10 days and you need to do the 90%...you need to go that extra mile?

During today's altar call, you might want to bring forward your own burden but maybe you feel led to come forward and pray for someone else. To pray with Pastor Travis, maybe to kneel or sit at the altar near the stage

Announcements

Sign up sheets are available at the back of the church to get your picture taken for the new church directory.

Don't forget to register your children for Upward Basketball, Onward Basketball, and cheerleading! Visit the Upward Basketball link from the front page of the website to sign up!

Add your name to the drawing each time you are at church for a chance to win an Operation Christmas Child t-shirt. Drawing to be held November 3rd.

We are gearing up for our annual fall festival on October 14th from 9am-12pm. We could use donations of cupcakes and 2 liter drinks and also volunteers to donate of their time starting with setup at 8am. Look for the orange sign up sheets at the back of the church.

Compassion Cafe Tuesday at 11am at the Methodist bus garage

October is Hunger Awareness month. We will have a missions fund raiser soup/sandwich lunch on Oct 15th after worship service. Please join us that day for lunch. Donations will be received for Mission efforts throughout the year.

We will be collecting food for backpack buddies for one of our local schools. Please bring food items that are easy to prepare by children/teenagers for meals that might not be provided for them by the adults in their houses. Help stop hunger!

How to connect to WiFi:

On your smartphone or tablet connect to RCBC in your settings

When the webpage automatically pops up, type RCBCRCBC as the password. If this page doesn't pop up, simply open your browser and try to visit a website, it should pop up asking you for your password first.

For "most" smartphones/tablets, you should be greeted to a webpage with our most current announcements, please check out the rest of the website for more information about what God is doing at Rock Creek Baptist!