



## Misery Measures Motives: Mother's Day with Job

Lesson 16 • Job 22-26

Our Misery Will Always Measure Our MOTIVES!

Suffering does not make our character it reveals our character.

*"The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away. Blessed be the name of the LORD." Job 1:21*

*Then his wife said to him, 'Do you still hold fast your integrity? Curse God and die!'" Job 2:9*

*But he said to her, "You speak as one of the foolish women speaks.*

*Shall we indeed accept good from God and not accept adversity?" Job 2:10*

*"But He knows the way I take; When He has tried me, I shall come forth as gold." Job 23:10*

They Say Misery Loves Company But Not the Company of Friends Like Job's!

Round 1	Round 2	Round 3
Rigid Confrontation	Relentless Conviction	Ruthless Condemnation
Sinning Is Implied	Sinning Is Insinuated	Sinner Is Indicted
Suggestion of Slight Sin	Accusation of Secret Sin	Confirmation as a Serious Sinner
<i>You must have sinned, so <b>REPENT</b> of it!</i>	<i>You have sinned, so <b>REALIZE</b> it!</i>	<i>You are a sinner, so you are <b>REAPING</b> it!</i>

### Measuring Our Motives in the Midst of Our Misery

#### 1. Are You Facing DECEITFUL Accusations like Job? Job 22

Eliphaz: "You Suffer Because You Are a Serious Sinner Who Serves God for Selfish Motives!"

##### 1. You suffer because your sins are seriously SELFISH here on earth! (22:1-11, 24-25)

- Your motives are selfish. (22:1-5)

**Question #1** Do you think your strength or your wisdom are of any use to God? (v. 2)  
*"You think God needs **you**!"*

**Question #2** Do you think God finds any pleasure in your righteousness or profit from your blamelessness? (v. 3)  
*"You think God profits from **your** blameless integrity!"*

**Question #3** Do you think God is punishing you because you fear Him so much? (v. 4)  
*"You think **you** are in the right and God is in the wrong!"*

**Question #4** Do you not realize you are a serious sinner? (v. 5)  
*"You just don't get, do **you**?! You are blind to the seriousness of **your** own sin!"*

- Your sins are serious. (22:6-11)

##### 2. You suffer because your sins are SEEN up in heaven! (22:12-20)

##### 3. Your salvation from suffering is always quickly SECURED by your repentance! (22:21-30)

- The requirements of repentance are correct. (22:21--24)
- The rewards of repentance are convincing. (22:25-30)
- The ironies of repentance are clear. (22:27-30; 42:7-9)

## 2. Are You Expressing TRUTHFUL Frustrations Like Job? Job 23-24

Job: "Where Is God, So I Can Make My Case and He Can Defend My Integrity?"

### 1. Frustrating perseverance during unjust suffering. (23:1-9)

*"I'm not letting up—I'm standing my ground. My complaint is legitimate. God has no right to treat me like this—it isn't fair!" (v. 2 MSG)*

### 2. Trusting confidence during unjust suffering. (23:6-7, 10)

- God is **not** so big that He won't pay attention me! (23:6)
- God is **not** so unjust that He won't acquit me! (23:7)
- God is **not** so far away that He's not aware of me; He will acknowledge that I am blameless in the end! (23:10)

### 3. Revealing evidence during unjust suffering. (23:11-12)

### 4. Fearing reverence during unjust suffering. (23:13-17)

### 5. Increasing annoyance during unjust suffering. (24:1-25)

## 3. Are You Feeling HATEFUL Assumptions Like Job? Job 25

Bildad: "God's So Big and You're So Bad, Why Bother Claiming to Be Blameless Before Him?"

Because blameless integrity before God is not measured by how much prosperity or adversity you experience, but is the result of a changed heart by faith in God's promises that are fulfilled in the Lord Jesus Christ!

## 4. Are You Maintaining FAITHFUL Resolutions Like Job? Job 26-27

Job: "You're No Help But God Is Big Enough to Help Me Even If No One Can Figure Him Out!  
So I Am Going to Maintain My Integrity in the Midst of My Misery No Matter What!"

### Measuring Your Motives as a Mom of Integrity

- Do I have selfish motives and serious sin I need to repent of? Jesus is my Savior!

The Requirements of Repentance – Job 22:21-24

- 1) Reconcile with God **by agreeing with Him about your sin.** (v. 21)
- 2) Receive correction from God's Word **by applying His Word in your heart.** (v. 22)
- 3) Return to God **by loving Him more than your sin.** (v. 23)
- 4) Remove sin from your life **by forsaking it completely.** (v. 23)
- 5) Repay what has been wrongfully taken **by restoring right values.** (v. 24)

The Rewards of Repentance – Job 22:21-30

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1) <b>You will...</b> have peace with God. (v. 21)         | 6) Receive answers to your prayers. (v. 27)                |
| 2) Receive good from God. (v. 21)                          | 7) Keep your faith promises to God. (v. 27)                |
| 3) Be restored by God Almighty. (v. 23)                    | 8) See the desires of your heart fulfilled. (v. 28)        |
| 4) Value God Almighty as your greatest treasure. (v. 25)   | 9) Experience God's blessings on your life. (v. 28)        |
| 5) Delight in God Almighty as your deepest desire. (v. 26) | 10) Be used of God to save and forgive others. (vv. 29-30) |

- Am I listening to the deceitful accusations from my Adversary, the Devil, and other accusers that promise me less adversity, more prosperity, and the approval of God, **IF** I give into the temptation to take the easy way out and compromise my integrity? Or **IF** I would just be a better person and try harder to earn God's approval? Jesus is my Redeemer!
- Am I feeling trapped by the brutal accusations and false thinking of hateful people who say I am unworthy of God's goodness and I will never measure up to God's greatness? Jesus is my Defender!
- Am I honestly expressing my frustrations with God and others, but doing so **with confidence** in **God's control** of my circumstances, **God's compassion** for me, and **my commitment** to being a mom of integrity by His grace through faith in Jesus? Jesus is my Lord!