



# ReFocus: God Is Big Enough and Small Enough

Lesson 21 • Job 33-37

When We Lose Focus in the Midst of Undeserved Adversity and Unfair Criticism,  
We Need Someone to Intervene and Help Us REFOCUS!

Job 32-37 records *the intervention by Elihu*, that includes *his introduction (32)* and *his instruction (33-37)* of Job and his miserable comforters in *four speeches*.

Speeches	Job Loses Focus	Elihu Seeks to ReFocus
First (Ch 33)	Why doesn't God respond to me? <b>Implication: God is uncaring!</b>	God Is Freely Sovereign
Second (Ch 34)	Why doesn't God relieve me? <b>Implication: God is unjust!</b>	God Is Unfailingly Just
Third (Ch 35)	Why doesn't God reward me? <b>Implication: God is unrighteous!</b>	God Is Absolutely Righteous
Fourth (Ch 36-37)	Why doesn't God resolve this? <b>Implication: God is unworthy!</b>	God Is Supremely Worthy

## REFOCUS: God Is Bigger and Smaller Than We Can Possibly Understand!

### 1. God is FREELY sovereign and does not have to answer to us for anything. Chapter 33

**Job's Loss of Focus** (33:8-11) *Why doesn't God respond to me? Implication: God is uncaring!*

**Elihu Seeks to ReFocus** (33:12-30)

- 1) God is freely **SOVEREIGN**, *therefore*, He does not have to give an account of Himself to us just because we demand answers! (12-13)
- 2) God is freely sovereign, *therefore*, He can choose to **SPEAK** in many ways at different times. (14-28)

*"We can ignore even pleasure. But pain insists upon being attended to. God whispers to us in our pleasures, speaks in our conscience, but shouts in our pains: it is his megaphone to rouse a deaf world."* ~C. S. Lewis

- 3) God is freely sovereign and **CARING**, *therefore*, He is always speaking to us for His glory and our good!

**Job's Opportunity to Respond:** Job fails to answer for the first time and chooses to continue to listen and gain wisdom. (33:31-33)

**ReFocus: God is always freely speaking to us in our suffering, so the question is...**  
*Are we listening, trusting, and following?*

### 2. God is UNFAILINGLY just and can never do wrong even it seems that way to us. Chapter 34

**Elihu's Reminder to Be Discerning and Choose Wisdom** (34:1-4)

**Job's Loss of Focus** (34:5-9) *Why doesn't God relieve me? Implication: God is unjust!*

**Elihu Seeks to ReFocus** (34:10-30)

- 1) God is unfailingly **JUST**, *therefore*, He never does anything that would pervert justice! (10-12)

- 2) God is unfailingly just and **MERCIFUL**, *therefore*, even our next breath is a gift of His mercy! (13-15)
- 3) God is unfailingly just and **ALMIGHTY**, *therefore*, no one can accuse Him of being unjust or overthrow His rule! (16-30)

**Elihu's Diagnosis of Job's Problem** (34:31-37)

- 1) You are trying to **CONTROL** your suffering and God by demanding that the just Judge meet your personal demands!
- 2) You are speaking words **WITHOUT** knowledge or wisdom. You have forgotten that running the universe is above your pay grade!
- 3) You deserve to be **JUDGED** to the limit for talking like an unbeliever and implying that God is unjust because you say so!

**ReFocus: God is always unfailingly just to us even in our suffering, so the question is...**  
*Are we willing to stop complaining to God and start trusting God?*

### 3. God is **ABSOLUTELY RIGHTEOUS** and does not need us to complete Himself. *Chapter 35*

**Job's Loss of Focus** (35:1-3) *Why doesn't God reward me? Implication: God is unrighteous!*

**Elihu Seeks to ReFocus** (35:4-8)

- 1) God is absolutely righteous, *therefore*, **NOTHING** we do or don't do can ever harm Him or help Him! (4-7)
- 2) God is absolutely righteous, *therefore*, **EVERYTHING** we do or don't do and how it impacts others does matter. (8)

**Elihu's Diagnosis of Job's Problem** (35:9-16)

- 1) You are becoming self-centered, suffering-obsessed, relief-oriented, and proud. (9, 12)
- 2) You need to become God-centered, wisdom-obsessed, relationship-oriented, and humble. (10-12)
- 3) You are too focused on your own timetable and not patiently waiting for God to come through in His own time. (13-16)

**ReFocus: God is always absolutely right in what He is doing in our suffering, so the question is...**  
*Are we willing to wait for Him to help and heal us on His timetable not ours?*

### 4. God is **SUPREME** worthy of our trust in life's storms even when we see no end to it.

*Chapters 36-37*

**Elihu's Request for Job's Patience** (36:1-4)

**Elihu's Defense of God's Purposes** (36:5-16)

**Elihu's Diagnosis of Job's Problem** (36:17-23) *Why doesn't God resolve this? Implication: God is unworthy!*

**Elihu's Doxology of God's Perfections** (36:24–37:20)

*"There is no attribute of God more comforting to His children than the doctrine of divine sovereignty." ~Charles Spurgeon*

**Our God Is Storm Controller Not a Storm Chaser!**

God is sovereign over **thunderstorms** (37:1-5), **snowstorms** (37:6-10), **rainstorms** (37:11-13), and over **all storms**, yet we are **clueless** and **powerless!** (37:14-20)

**Elihu's Deferral to God's Presence** (37:21-24)

God is sovereign over life's storms including yours– He is awesome and almighty, so fear Him with a humble heart! (37:24)

**ReFocus: God is always supremely worthy of our trust and obedience, so the question is...**  
*Are we willing to humble ourselves and fear Him more than the storms of life?*

**ReFocus: God Is Big Enough and Small Enough to Be Trusted in the Storms of Life!**

*"What comes to our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us." ~A. W. Tozer*