

Teaching Tips

November 26
Bible Study Guide 13

Words You Should Know

A. Sabians (Job 1:15) *Sheba* (Heb.)—A Semitic people known to be “men of stature” (Isaiah 45:14) who settled in Sheba, known today as Marib, located in Yemen

B. Cursed his day (3:1) *qalal yowm* (Heb.)—Job “cursed his day” as a rhetorical wish to escape life’s adversities, hardships, and difficulties “without having lived.” To curse one’s day was a way of lamenting the worthlessness of one’s life.

C. Give Up the Ghost (v. 11) *gava’* (Heb.)—To be ready to die; to be about to die; to expire.

Teacher Preparation

A. Read and memorize the Keep In Mind verse. Read the Focal Verses until you begin to feel Job’s sense of loss and appreciate his loyalty and commitment to God.

B. Read In Focus, The People, Places, and Times, and Background.

C. You will need newsprint or a chalkboard for this lesson.

O—Open the Lesson

A. Review the Lesson Aim. Then ask the students to read the In Focus story silently.

B. With your students’ assistance, list on newsprint or a chalkboard 10 to 15 national or international tragedies that have occurred within the past two or three years.

C. Have two or three of your students share a personal tragedy that has occurred in their own

lives. Remind your students that tragedy is a part of living in a world where evil and human error exist. The question is: “How can we best manage and live with tragedy?”

P—Present the Scriptures

A. Remind the students that Job’s story teaches several lessons about “living with tragedy.” Have one of your students read the Focal Verses aloud.

B. Discuss the question, “How was Job able to manage and live with his tragedy?” Expand the discussion to include some of the other questions under Discuss the Meaning.

E—Explore the Meaning

A. Ask the students to share any personal experiences concerning how their faith in God has helped them to manage and live with personal tragedies.

B. Guide the students in praying for those who may be struggling with unresolved issues relating to some tragedy.

N—Next Steps for Application

A. Remind the students that while God does not send our tragedies, He can use them as occasions for our spiritual strengthening and growth.

B. With some encouraging and affirming words, close the session by calling the students’ attention to the Keep In Mind verse.