

WEEK 4 LESSON GUIDE



BIG IDEA

We can trust God will make everything right.

BIBLE

Job Is Restored: Job 42:1–17; Mark 10:46–52

ABOUT THIS WEEK

Traveling can feel so stressful, but once you arrive at your destination and unpack, everything feels ... better. This week, we'll see what happened when God helped Job rebuild his life after he went through his uncomfortable experience. Even though he lost so much, in the end God gave him so much more, which helps us know **we can trust God will make everything right.**

LARGE GROUP TIME

Welcome back, travelers! I'm so glad you are with me on this epic journey. From airports and planes to trains, we've followed the story of Job to learn that **God is with us no matter what we go through!** Because of this, **we can show God's love to others in small ways** when they're going through challenges. There's so much more to learn because **God is bigger than we could ever understand**, so let's strap in for today's travel adventure, shall we?

WHAT? *What are we talking about today?*

ACTIVITY | Suitcase Scurry

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *For this activity, you will need two empty rolling suitcases (or as many as teams you want to make). To play, have teams line up on one side of the room. Set up cones on the other side of the room. The first player has to roll the suitcase from the starting line to the cone, walk around it, and rush back to hand the suitcase off to the next player.*
 - ✂ **PRETEEN HACK:** *To make this activity more challenging, add a bunch of different items into the suitcase. Each player has to open the suitcase once they reach the cone, remove one item, and zip it back up before returning back to their team. You could reuse items from the "Pack Your Bags" activity in Week 1.*
- After that game it seems we are getting closer to our destination. As we get closer, we should check in with the story of Job to see how his story ends.

ACTIVITY | Rest Stop Relay

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *For this activity, you'll need balloons or beach balls. To play, split kids into teams and have them line up across the room, two arm's length apart. Give an inflated balloon or a beach ball to the first person in line. They have to pass it down the line by tossing it into the air to the next person. They have to make it all the way down without letting it fall to the ground or grabbing the ball. If it falls, return it to the first person and start over. First team to have the balloon or ball make it all the way to the end. You could also have teams*

stand in a circle and count how many "bounces" they made on the ball before it falls to the ground.

✂ **PRETEEN HACK:** Introduce [footbag](#), or [hacky sack](#), to the kids as a fun way to stretch and get some exercise at a rest stop. You can practice ahead of time and show them some moves, or you can play a video like [this](#) (until 1:30), or something else like it. Afterwards, have kids practice some moves.

✂ **ACCESSIBILITY HACK:** Have kids hold the edges of a sheet or parachute. Place a few balloons on top of the sheet and have the kids shake the sheet but try to keep the balloons on the sheet. They can use one hand to hold the sheet and one hand to hit any stray balloons back onto the sheet.

- I feel like I've been traveling with you for a month! I think we were long overdue for a break at this rest stop. Might as well, since I think we're almost at our destination!
- Makes me think about Job. Does he ever catch a break? Well, today's Bible Story is about what happened to Job after God spoke to him. This is gonna be good!

QUESTION | Have you ever had an argument with someone?

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Ask the following questions. You can have every kid shout their answer but then ask a few kids to share their answers with everyone. Comment briefly on their answers.

✂ **PRETEEN HACK:** Many preteens shy away from sharing voluntarily and don't know how (or want) to answer direct questions. It may help to give them space to talk about whatever they'd like while you listen. Look for subtle ways to bring the conversation to today's topic, or just enjoy connecting with your preteens!

- **Have you ever had a disagreement or argument with a friend or family member?**
- **How did you feel during that time?**
- **Did you manage to make things right with them afterward?**
- You've been on this earth long enough to notice that sometimes things go wrong. There are times, though, that we can help make it right, like apologizing to a friend or offering to replace something you broke.
- But there are also times when it seems like there's nothing we can do to make things right again. It's easy to get down on ourselves and feel sad in times like these, but that's when we can remember that there is someone who can make everything right in ways we never would have thought!
- I'll give you a hint—it's God!

SO WHAT? Why does it matter to God and to us?

SCRIPTURE | Job 42:1–17 (Job Restored)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Dress as a Resort Concierge. Wear a hat, sunglasses, and a resort uniform that could be a vest, tropical print shirt, or even a t-shirt that has a vacation destination graphic on it. You could choose to hand out [plastic leis](#) to the kids, welcoming them to the Resort as they get settled.
- Welcome to the *Along the Way* Resort, the finest resort in the land of Uz! I am the head concierge and I am here to help you find interesting things to do while you're here on vacation. I do hope you'll find that your time with us will be worth all the energy you spent and the delays you faced trying to get here.
- **So is this your first time in the land of Uz?** You know, not long ago, we had a hometown celebrity named Job.
 - **Have you heard of him? Oh really?**
 - **Wanna share some things you know about him?**
- Job's story began right here. He was always well-known as someone who loved God and lived a righteous life. He had everything anyone could ask for—a beautiful family, all this land and animals, and people to take care of the land and animals. The guy was blessed.

- Then one day, he lost everything in one fell swoop. Even his own health started falling apart. Some friends of his dropped by and tried to comfort him, and they did okay, but in the end they weren't the comfort that Job really needed.
- Job never blamed God, but after some time had passed, he did have questions. Who wouldn't have some questions? I definitely think that I would. That's when God spoke and helped Job.
- God helped Job to see that from his perspective as a person, he just couldn't understand everything the way that God does. But because God is so big and powerful, Job should trust in God, even in the toughest moments.
- **Let's read Job 42:1–6.**
 - Job learned that just because he didn't know the answer, it didn't mean God didn't have the answer. Turns out, God was even bigger and more powerful than he knew before!
 - Job remained faithful to God, and began to see how *big* God was and how much God understood about the world we live in. Job began to grow closer to God when he started to trust God more.
- **Let's read Job 42:7–9.**
 - Even though Job's friends didn't give him the best advice, Job prayed for his friends. Despite all the hard things Job went through, he prayed. He knew that God was big enough to handle his sadness, frustration, and big emotions and that God cared deeply for him.
 - We see that as Job began to pray, God began to make everything right.
- **Read Job 42:10–13**
 - As God began to make things right, God blessed Job more than he could even imagine. God blessed him with more animals, kids, and—this really cool part that I think we can't miss— Job lived to be a very old man! Job lived a full life. I can't imagine all the cool things he experienced with God.
 - Job learned to see God in a new way and pushed into God when he faced some pretty tough situations.
- As we go through our lives, we know that God is with us, that God is bigger, wiser, kinder, and more loving than we can understand and that even when we have doubts we can trust God to take care of us.
- We are so excited you made it to *Along the Way* resort. As we continue to have some fun, let's keep thinking about how we can trust God to make things right at the right time!

BIG IDEA | We can trust God will make everything right.

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Cut out the images from the Polaroid [printable](#). Use a [black sticky note](#) to cover each of the "photos." Invite kids to come up, remove the sticky note, and share the word underneath with the group then pass the "polaroid" around. Work together to put the words in the correct order, then recite the Big Idea together.*
- When we travel, we see and learn about so many things along the way to any destination. It's a good thing I captured the most important moments on camera!
- Sometimes, when we know that God is good, and yet we don't see our life as being very good at the moment, we can wonder what God is doing, wonder if God really is all that "good," and even wonder if God is really there. But just like we see that God never really left Job at all, **we can trust God will make everything right** in our own lives.

VIDEO | A Clip from "Home Alone"

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Pass out bags of popcorn or a suitable alternative for kids who are allergic to popcorn. Then have the kids watch [this clip](#) from "Home Alone 2," (start at 1:49) about Kevin's reunion with his family (or something similar) as resort entertainment. We always suggest viewing the clip beforehand to make sure you think it's a video that will be a good fit for your context! For more information on how to legally use copyrighted material for educational purposes, [read this](#)!*

- Did you check out the movie that was playing at the resort lobby? It was this classic movie, "Home Alone 2," about a little boy named Kevin who was supposed to go on a trip with his family. But unexpectedly, Kevin got on a different plane. He was all alone in New York City dealing with burglars while his family flew all the way to Florida!
- Kevin had no one, and I think that's how Job must have felt, too—alone and not sure what to do. Throughout most of the movie, Kevin's mother frantically tries to return home to her son. She doesn't give up.
- God cares about us all, and God never gives up on us. When things go wrong in our lives, God wants us to trust that everything will be all right. Maybe things don't get fixed exactly the way we think they should. Maybe not all of us get that amazing happy ending Job got. But even when it might not look like it, **we can trust God will make everything right.**

OBJECT LESSON | Make It Make Sense

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *For this object lesson, you will need tiles from Scrabble. Give each kid a handful of letters and invite them to try and create a word with the letters they have and add up the numbers (have leaders or older kids help out younger kids). Hold onto some extra tiles, and help out kids who have a difficult assortment of letters.*
 - ✂ **ACCESSIBILITY HACK:** *Sit in a circle and have all the Scrabble tiles in the middle. Go around the circle and have each kid take a turn to pick a tile in the order of the alphabet. The first kid will look for one letter A, the next kid will look for one letter B, and so on. After all letters of the alphabet have been collected, help them add up their numbers.*
- One thing I love to do when I travel is play games with my family and friends. Scrabble is one of my favorites, but the board was too big to carry with me, so we're just playing with the tiles today.
 - **What were some of your thoughts when everyone got a different number of tiles?**
 - **Who wants to share some of the words you were able to make with your tiles?**
- Interestingly enough, all of you made different words. Based on the tiles you were given, some of you made words easily while some of you could only make a two-letter word or no word at all. You might think it's unfair that you didn't get as many useful or high-scoring letters. But the letters you were given have nothing to do with your value. Does that make sense?
- Because this happens in life, too. We might look at how well others are doing and wonder why we can't have those things, too. It doesn't make sense. We might even say things like if God really loved me, I should have all the best things and everything in my life should be perfect.
- That's not how it works. Life is messy because as wonderful as God made the world, God also allowed people to make their own choices. Throughout time, a lot of bad choices led to a lot of bad things sticking around, making it an unjust and confusing world sometimes.
- God promises it won't be like this forever. One day, God will fix all the broken things, and things like war, poverty, hunger, fear, and more will be gone forever. Until that one day, we can go through each day leaning on God and being thankful that God is still with us and loves us.
- It might not be today, and it might not be in the ways we might have pictured, but **we can trust God will make everything right!**

SCRIPTURE | Mark 10:46–52

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *Read the passage out loud or invite a volunteer to read for the group.*
 - ✂ **ACCESSIBILITY HACK:** *As you talk about God making things right this week, and especially during the secondary Scripture module, remember that kids with disabilities should not be viewed as having something that is "wrong" with them. Their disability is a part of their identity and how they interact with God and the world. Celebrate the diversity God has given your*

ministry and invite kids to be part of a culture of inclusion and mindfulness.

- This passage is about a time when Jesus made things right. Bartimaeus believed that Jesus could heal him because he knew that Jesus was God's son. Like Job, Bartimaeus trusted in God. That faith made him so sure that Jesus could turn things around for him.
- But notice that Jesus didn't just make things right for Bartimaeus by helping him see. He made things right by letting all the people know that it wasn't okay to treat Bartimaeus so badly. Everyone tried to tell him to be quiet and not bother Jesus, but Jesus stopped and made sure Bartimaeus was seen just as much as he wanted to see.
- This is the way Jesus lived his life on earth. He taught people about God and how much God loved them. Jesus forgave people of their sins and showed them how to live with the love of God. Jesus gave up his life on the cross so we could connect with God again.
- When we look to Jesus, there is no doubt about it—**we can trust God will make everything right.**

VIDEO | *Along the Way*, Episode 4

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play this week's episode of [Grow TV](#).

NOW WHAT? *What does God want us to do about it?*

REFLECTION | What If

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Dim the lights in your space and invite kids to close their eyes. You could even pass out [eye masks](#) and have kids sit back in their chairs. Ask the following questions.
- **What if you were Job and God had basically reversed all your troubles and turned them into blessings?**
- **How would you show your thankfulness to God?**
- **How do you think he would have reacted if God hadn't blessed him like this?**
- From what we know about Job, it's fair to say he continued to trust and love God. Don't get me wrong—what he went through was horrible. But somehow, even in tragedy, Job gained a new understanding of God.
 - When Job was hurting and sad, God took care of him and made his faith stronger. When Job's friends and family abandoned him or discouraged him, God was always with him, so Job was never alone.
 - So even if God hadn't made things right by restoring his health and fortunes, Job would have trusted God's big picture.
- Trusting God to make things right doesn't mean we simply sit around and wait for things to happen. Because sometimes, God makes things right through people ... like you and me. There are plenty of things we can do in our own lives to make things right.
 - **Let's name some things we know of that seem to be going wrong. Are you struggling to get along with someone, fit in somewhere, or communicate how you feel?**
 - **Is there anything you can do to help make it right?**
 - **Talk to one of the adults here if you think we can help you in anyway!**
- Whatever seems to be going wrong in your life, talk to God about it. Trust God to make it right, even if making it right might not mean that everything gets better in our eyes. It will take time, but we can learn to trust God with any outcome. **We can trust God will make everything right.**

RESPONSE | Big Idea Passport

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Use the Big Idea passports you assembled in Week 1. Make sure you have extra copies for kids who weren't here previously. Consider using [visa stamps](#) or [stickers](#) to decorate the pages. Allow kids to take their passports home today!
- When you travel, you'll need to have a passport. A passport shows who you are and what country you're a citizen

of. If you get into trouble along the way, you can use your passport to get help from your home country! Your passport can also remind you of all the places you've been and what you saw and experienced along the way!

- **Check that you have the correct passport, then turn to the final blank page.**
 - **Write today's Big Idea at the top of the page: We can trust God will make everything right.**
 - **Then write or draw about something right in your life that God has already given you.**
 - **What is something that you'd like to see made right one day?**
- Take these passports home, and put them somewhere you can look at them. These passports will not only remind us of the journey Job took and what he learned along the way but are great reminders of what God is teaching us along the way, too. Bon voyage!

MEMORY VERSE | Psalm 121:8 (NIV)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Learn the memory verse together using any combination of the resources provided: [memory verse coloring page](#), [sign language motions](#), or choose from [this list](#) of our favorite memorization techniques!
- **"The Lord will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore."**

PRAYER

- God, we thank you for loving us. We know that there is a lot of brokenness in this world, but we trust that you can and you will make everything right. When we don't have all the answers help us to trust in you and help us to grow in our faith in you. Amen.

SMALL GROUP TIME

DISCUSSION

- **SCRIPTURE QUESTIONS**
 - **What unexpected things happened in Job's life?** *Job lost his family, his possessions, and his health. His friends turned out to be unhelpful leaving Job more miserable and alone.*
 - **What did God have Job do for his friends?** *Job prayed for them and God accepted his prayer.*
 - **How did God make things right for Job?** *He received more blessings than he had before. He had a family again, great wealth, and he lived a long life.*
 - **Read Mark 10:52. How did Jesus make things right for Bartimaeus?** *He helped him see, he cared for him when others told him to be quiet, he gave him a place among his followers.*
- **APPLICATION QUESTIONS**
 - **What does it mean or look like to have things made right?**
 - **What are some things you want to see made right in the world around you?**
 - **Is there something you need God's help to make right in your life right now?**

ACTIVITY | Souvenir Keychains

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** For this activity, give each kid a keychain like [these](#). To make this souvenir, have kids use markers to write the Big Idea or memory verse, or draw a picture on a piece of paper that fits into their keychain.
- Souvenirs are a great way to carry a piece of your travels with you. I hope this souvenir keychain always reminds you of all the things we learned together through Job's journey. Remember that life may not be perfect, but we have hope in God. **We can trust God will make everything right.**