Desperate Fathers | June 18, 2023

Summary

Job's life drastically changed in one day. Despite his immense suffering, Job remained faithful to God. Men and anyone suffering needs to be offered love, encouragement, compassion, and a listening ear.

Scripture

Job 1:1-22, Job 2:1-13, Job 19:17-20

The LORD is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit. -Psalm 34:18 (NIV)

Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. -Ephesians 4:29 (NIV)

For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. -Ephesians 6:12 (NIV)

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I always thank my God for you because of his grace given you in Christ Jesus. -2 Corinthians 1:3-4 (NIV)

Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing. -1 Thessalonians 5:11 (NIV)

Let's Start

What is a special memory you have of your dad?

Gratitude and Prayer

How has God worked in your life since we were together?

Let's Talk

- 1. Have you ever experienced a "one day" event in your life that changed everything? How did you respond to it?
- 2. Pastor Dale said that we should be CEOs—Chief Encouragement Officers—to those who are hurting. How can we be Chief Encouragement Officers to those in our lives who may be going through difficult times?
- 3. In your opinion, what are some ways we unintentionally kick people when they're down, and how can we avoid doing that?
- 4. Reflecting on the story of Job, what lesson can we learn about maintaining faith amid suffering?
- 5. Share a personal experience where someone offered you love and compassion during a difficult time. How did it impact you, and how can we extend that same love to others?

Let's Act

Is there someone in your life, a man or woman, who needs you to become their <i>CEO</i> , Chief Encouragement Officer? How can you encourage him or her this week?