

I Need a Faith Partner

Job 2:3-10

Intro:

This scripture and book reminds me of the importance of knowing your spouse forward, backwards, upside down, and diagonal.

90% of the people I speak to that are going through a divorce circles around the idea that the spouse has not been honest with the other spouse, about who they really are (they claim to love God).

Then God allows the test that reveals the person under pressure where faith is required. Some people make it, some crumble, because they claim to be Christians but never had a real test to test their faith. People will do what they can to get you, but realize later on, they can't keep you.

In 2 Corinthians 6:14, Paul speaks about partners being equal yoke, which means believers should not be mixed with unbelievers. As a result, we need faith partners, someone to hold us accountable when our faith runs low.

What do we do when we are trusting God and things go from bad to worse to unbearable? Where is the partner?

Job has lost everything, his kids, wealth, his health, and now his wife. Job wants to keep the faith, but his wife says, curse God and die. How do you respond when your spouse doesn't respond as you expected?

Now, Job is tested to the point of picking between his wife and God. A husband should never be put in the position to pick between God and our wife. If we do, there are three things we must remember when we are being put to the test (remember the garden, the devil manipulates the wife to get to the man).

The first is:

Remember your integrity:

In verse 9 Job's wife challenges the principles that stand between the relationship of God and Job by saying, curse God and die. The wife's response should never make a man doubt his

relationship with God. Job responded you talk like a foolish woman, he didn't call her a fool, but said she is like a fool. Therefore we must remember who we are and what we stand for.

It was Joshua that said, choose this day whom you will serve, but as for me in my house, we will serve the Lord.

Psalms 34:1 David says I will praise the Lord at all times.

Job says though he slays me, yet will I trust Him. Job 13:15

We are in a relationship with God and let not death, life, angels, or demons separate you from the love of God (Romans 8:38), not even your spouse.

Remember Romans 8:28:

And we know that all things work together for those who love the Lord and are called to His purpose.

Job asked his wife in verse 10, *do we just accept the good things from God and not the bad?*

Translation: Baby are you crazy, why would you say something about God like that (!)?

Do we only accept the good that God gives? Can we witness the grace God gives us to survive as we move through the issue, or are bad situations always going to be a problem? It's grace that is sufficient for us to get through the bad times. It is the goodness of grace that is sufficient for us in these dark times and that is something to be grateful for.

It takes good and bad together to help us grow in faith. Only faith partners understand this secret. Only a faith partner will stand when the other is down. Only a faith partner can remind you of God's grace and help you realize this is only temporary.

Remember your God:

At the end of verse 10, the bible says, *and in all this, (conversation of Job and his friends) Job said nothing wrong (about God).*

It's the devil that accuses and destroys relationships. He did it in the garden, he did it between brothers, marriages, and in the church. If he can change your mind to change the way you speak about God, then he has changed the relationship.

Words give life and words give death. We have to pay attention to what we speak about God. We need to find more positive things to say than negative. We can either build our relationship with

God or we can destroy our relationship with God. The difference between building and destroying is words.

James 3:12 says you can't draw fresh water from a salty stream, so how can we curse God and praise Him at the same time. It's either one or the other.

Close:

This is the result After the Lord had finished speaking to Job, he said to Eliphaz the Temanite: *“I am angry with you and your two friends, for you have not spoken accurately about me, as my servant Job has (Job 42:7-8), **10** When Job prayed for his friends, the Lord restored his fortunes. In fact, the Lord gave him twice as much as before!*

We have to be able to:

1. Love God with all our strength
2. Love our neighbor as we love ourselves

If we don't know who we are in Christ, how can we have an honest ministry?