

**PART 3: Deal With God**

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## START

It can be tempting to strike a deal with God when pain and suffering enter our lives, or when we experience evil in the world. However, when we attempt to make a deal with God what we really are struggling with is why there is evil in the world.

- What deal have you wanted to make with God?
- When have you experienced evil in your life?
- Why do you think there is evil in the world?

## READ

[Job 23:10](#) (NIV)

“But he knows the way that I take; when he has tested me, I will come forth as gold.”

## THINK

Job’s friends did their best to logically explain the suffering that was happening in Job’s life. But nothing made sense to Job. Job knew there was no logical reason why he should be experiencing so much evil in his life. Job was more concerned with God’s apparent absence.

- When suffering happens in your life, how can you be sure that God is still near?
- How can our experiences potentially harm our faith?
- How can we develop a faith that is not dependent upon our circumstances?

Job knew that even the test he was going through would make him stronger. That despite his circumstances and his suffering, God would still be faithful to Him. And because God would continue to be faithful, Job could continue to be faithful to God.

- When have you been tempted to turn from God during your suffering?
- How has suffering produced strength in your life?

## PRAY

“God, let me know that you have solved the problem of evil through Jesus. As we wait for you to fully establish your kingdom, help us to lean into your love and goodness knowing that you will turn our suffering into good.”

## ACT

This week, reflect on what you have suffered through, or what you are currently suffering through. Reflect on what strength is being formed through this suffering.

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