

THE FORERUNNERS

LIVING FOR AND POINTING TO JESUS



A Sunday teaching series at King's
www.kingsnorwich.com

Series Description

Before Jesus turned up 2000 years ago there are countless recorded stories of people who loved God and were trusting Him to provide someone who would save them and make everything right that had gone wrong in the world. In this series we're going to be taking a look at some of the people in those stories as they ran before Jesus.

Forerunner Characters

Job by Goff Hope
Joseph by Toby Skipper
Elijah by Marcus Tutt
and others

Recommended Reading

[Job by Charles Swindoll](#)
[Joseph by Charles Swindoll](#)
[Elijah by Charles Swindoll](#)

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Title: Job part 2: When you're down & troubled...

Speaker: Goff Hope

Bible Reference: Job Ch 1-3

Overview

We all sense all is not quite right in the world. There's much that's beautiful, enjoyable etc. but we're aware it can easily be lost, broken. Job asks wheelchair questions, not armchair questions. What sense can we make of awful suffering that hits even good people, men & women of faith? What hope is there for Job / for us in suffering, when God we can't understand it?

Main points

Job's friends were most helpful when they were just there, silent! Conventional wisdom is no help:

- Religious wisdom: God is good, rewards good & judges evil. You must have sinned = guilt
- Secular wisdom: There's no God, life is random, life sucks = cynicism
- The Book of Job tells us neither are right & points ahead; *somehow suffering & glory are linked*

When Job had almost lost all hope, God gives him a brief glimpse into future that gives him hope! See chapter 14 vs 14-17. It's Jesus! It's the Gospel! Called, loved, cared for, forgiven – through the Cross! This is how *suffering & glory are linked*.

2 Corinthians 4v17 - Resurrection! Glorification! Weight of glory!

Questions

- What can we learn from Job's friends about how we can best support people going through suffering?
- What did God show Job that helped him, albeit briefly!, in the middle of his suffering? *Job 14v14-17*
- Many people know what it is to feel despair; How would you sum up the Christian's hope?
- Our culture is totally focused on the here & now. Is that right for Christians? How excited do you get about Heaven?!!