



Student Activities

1. Direct students' attention again to the cloud. Say, "We placed concerns and questions we could not understand on this cloud." Hold up and read aloud the caption "Job's Suffering: Loss of Wealth, Family, and Health." Post it on the cloud underneath the words, "God Understands" (you will probably need to move a few of the other sticky notes elsewhere on the cloud to avoid covering them up). Tell students that throughout God's speech to Job and even by the end of it, we never hear Job repeating his Why? questions or reiterating the case he had so carefully formulated before God. By this point, Job recognized that God was in charge—that God did indeed understand his situation and his suffering and that he alone had power and authority over the "big picture." Job understood at last that God is sovereign over all things and that he alone is worthy of praise because he is God. Some things were just too wonderful for Job to know!
2. Encourage students to pray, asking God to help them place the things they don't understand in his hands. Also, pray aloud on their behalf, asking God to help them enlarge their concept of him so that they will better understand not only that he is in charge of the universe but also that he controls the details of their own lives. Finally, ask God to give them the faith they need to submit to his loving authority and trust him, even in times of crisis.
3. Flip over the large cloud. On the back side, write the words of Job 42:2 in the center. Ask students to fill out their last sticky note, this time with a note or verse of reassurance (give them some time to locate verses or formulate their thoughts in a way that will be meaningful and unique to them), indicating that God alone can do all things and is in control of all things. Have students place these on the cloud. Take the time to read the notes aloud (you might prefer to have students approach the cloud one at a time, reading aloud their note before posting it and moving on to the next student in line).
4. Play the song "I Stand in Awe of You" by Mark Altrogge, or read a copy of the lyrics to students. You might have students stand and worship the Lord together as they sing the words of this prayer-song (if so, make certain the lyrics are available to all). Reread Job 42:2–3 aloud.
5. Have students take out their journals and respond to the following questions. If time is short or students need or want more time to write, assign the journaling as homework.
 - What do you think of God's answer to Job? Is it satisfying to you? Does it seem to you that Job was satisfied with God's response?
 - Do you have reflections and questions about God's speech to Job or about Job's response to God? Write down something about which you are wondering.
 - Are there any questions that come to your mind following our class session today?