

## When & Why Bible Study – Week 4

Before reading *anything*, answer the following questions:

1. What do you know about the biblical story of Job? [Note: it's okay if you've never heard anything about it. Just say so!]
2. Read Job 2:11-13. How would you describe Job's friends? What do they set out to do? What do they do?
3. If you had to choose between believing that God was all powerful or believing that God was unfailingly just and loving, which would you choose to believe? Why?

Read Chapter 2 of *When Bad Things Happen to Good People*, and answer these questions:

4. Where did the story of Job originally come from (before it was recorded in the bible)?
5. Kushner states that the person who would go on to write the biblical book of Job was "bothered" by Job's original story. Why was he bothered?
6. Kushner lists three statements the people in the book of Job and many of its readers would like to be able to believe. What are they?
7. What has to happen in order for us to believe all three statements?

8. Because Job is good and he suffers, Job chooses to give up one of the two statements about God. Which one does he choose to reject?
  
9. Which one of the two statements about God does Kushner say the author of the biblical book of Job rejected?
  
10. Where does Kushner say that our sense of unfairness and injustice comes from?