

# RAISING WISE KIDS IN A SEXUALLY BROKEN WORLD

A PARENTING WORKSHOP WITH LAURIE KRIEG

\$10 PER PERSON | CHILDCARE AVAILABLE  
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**SATURDAY,  
APRIL 25**  
9:00AM-12:00PM

THE LIVING



FROM CHAOS



STORY

TO ORDER







## Where we are going today

- Pain happens (the story of Job and us)
- Questions about God (in the presence of pain and evil)
- The question for us (as pain interrogates our faith)
- The summary of the matter



## Pain happens

*“Humans are born to trouble as surely as sparks fly upward.”*

Job 5:7

## Job: A three-act play

The wager: *“The Lord said to Satan, “Have you considered my servant Job? No one else on earth is like him, a man of perfect integrity, who fears God and turns away from evil.”*

Job 1:8



“How may we attribute this same work to God, to Satan, and man as author, without either excusing Satan as associated with God, or making the God the author of evil? Easily, if we consider first the end, and then the manner of acting. The Lord’s purpose is to exercise the patience of His servant by calamity; Satan endeavors to drive him to desperation; the Chaldeans strive to...”

[John Calvin, commenting on Job 1:12 in his Institutes]

“The Devil and God both test us in this fashion. Satan and his minions do it in order to bring us down in flames...God does it as a training exercise, for their future role in his plans. In the same we can see both Satan’s malice in the foreground and the gracious purpose of God’s overruling providence in the background.”

[J.I. Packer]



# Questions about God

1. Is God transactional?
2. Is God impotent?
3. Is God disinterested?
4. Is God in a tug of war stand-off with Satan?



# The question for us

*“Does Job fear God for nothing?”*

Job 1:9–11



“If we love God for something less than himself, we cherish a desire that can fail us. We run the risk of hating Him if we do not get what we hope for.”

Thomas Merton



“If my house has collapsed at one blow, that is because it was a house of cards. The faith which ‘took things into account’ was not faith but imagination. . . . I thought I trusted the rope until it mattered to me whether it would bear me. Now that it matters, I find it didn’t.

“Bridge-players tell me that there must be some money on the game, ‘or else people won’t take it seriously.’ Apparently it’s like that. . . . You will never discover how serious it was until the stakes are raised horribly high; until you find that you are playing not for sixpences but for every penny you have in the world. Nothing less will shake a man—or at any rate a man like me—out of his merely verbal thinking and his merely notional beliefs.”

[C.S. Lewis, *A Grief Observed*]



*Then Job stood up, tore his robe, and shaved his head. He fell to the ground and worshiped, saying:*

*"Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked I will leave this life. The Lord gives, and the Lord takes away. Blessed be the name of the Lord."*

Job 1:20–21



# The summary of the matter

(The end of transactional relationships!)

- For Job (tests prove his faith and relationship with God based on grace)
- For God (God is never “in it” for himself; he sacrifices his best for our sake)

*For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit.*

1 Peter 3:18

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