

## When Darkness Hides His Smile

2 Corinthians 5:7

We walk by faith, not by sight.

Job 1:6-12

One day the angels came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan also came with them. 7 The Lord said to Satan, "Where have you come from?" Satan answered the Lord, "From roaming through the earth and going back and forth in it."

8 Then the Lord said to Satan, "Have you considered my servant Job? There is no one on earth like him; he is blameless and upright, a man who fears God and shuns evil."

9 "Does Job fear God for nothing?" Satan replied. 10 "Have you not put a hedge around him and his household and everything he has? You have blessed the work of his hands, so that his flocks and herds are spread throughout the land. 11 But stretch out your hand and strike everything he has, and he will surely curse you to your face." 12 The Lord said to Satan, "Very well, then, everything he has is in your hands, but on the man himself do not lay a finger." Then Satan went out from the presence of the Lord.

Job 1:20-22

At this, Job got up and tore his robe and shaved his head. Then he fell to the ground in worship 21 and said: "Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked I will depart. The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away; may the name of the Lord be praised."

22 In all this, Job did not sin by charging God with wrongdoing.

Living in God's Smile

# When Darkness Hides His Smile

## Message notes:

Build your life by faith on the character of \_\_\_\_\_, not the circumstances around you.

When God smiles on us, it is the releasing of \_\_\_\_\_.

This dark place is where faith has to \_\_\_\_\_ the seemingness of what life is telling you.

God smiles because He knows what is on the \_\_\_\_\_ of our pain.

Looking at life through the lens of the cross doesn't take away all of your pain, but it gives you confidence that you can rest on His \_\_\_\_\_.

Clouds don't mean that God has \_\_\_\_\_.

The enemy can never take a smile from \_\_\_\_\_.

## Additional notes:

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**Discussion Questions:**

Why does this world give us such a distorted picture of what is going on in the heavenly realm? Why do things often seem so different from what God is doing?

What does it mean to walk in the favor of God?

Why is it so important to know that God is smiling on you, even in the hard times?

What do you do when darkness hides God's shining face?  
How does worship lift your eyes?

Share of a time that you walked through a difficult season, but now you are able to look back and see how God was smiling on you throughout it.

How can we, as a group, help remind each other that God is smiling on you, especially during hard times?

**Ministry Time Questions:**

Does anyone feel an immediate need for us to pray for a hedge of God's protection around your life?

Are you struggling to see God's smile in the midst of what you are walking through?