

## Coming Out Gold - Faith It!

Scripture used: [Job 2: 11-13 \(NLT\)](#)

### OVERVIEW

Pastor Hurmon continued the 6-week sermon series “Coming Out Gold!” leading up to the NBCC Easter Celebration on Sunday, April 1st. This week, we dealt with the reality of tragedy in our lives, and the lives of those we love. Every one will endure “Job moments”, those seasons of suffering that test our faith, and our relationships. Whether we are the one suffering, or a close family member or friend is suffering, the story of Job offers insight. Pastor Hurmon used the story of a member of his Boston congregation, Edwina, who was widowed with 8 young children. This remarkable woman never put her hope anywhere but God, even when one of her daughters was tragically murdered. Both Edwina and Job tell us a fundamental truth: do not disconnect from God during a crisis. Instead, go to Him with your anger and pain. God understands what it’s like to watch a child murdered for no reason. He has suffered as we suffer, and yet triumphed!

### KEY POINTS

- 1) We will both be like Job, and like Job’s friends during our lifetime.** The world has evil in it, and we suffer accordingly. That means we will experience heartbreak, and so will the people around us. We need to know how to play both roles well. Remember that Job’s friends were patriarchs, running families and businesses. Nevertheless, in Job’s time of loss, they sat with him for 7 days before even speaking. Our friends will required that kind of support, and so will we!
- 2) When friends are in pain, follow these 4 steps.** Job’s friends did not act perfectly, but they did model the right behavior in some important ways.
  - a. Show up.** We can’t be there for our friends from a distance.
  - b. Share their grief.** Be prepared emotionally, but also with words and prayers.
  - c. Sit quietly.** We can be a part of the “ministry of presence”, supporting just by being in the room.
  - d. Initiate help.** Be proactive. Don’t just say “What can I do?”
- 3) When we are in pain, follow these 4 steps.** Job set a powerful example, despite his pain. In [Job 3:3 \(NLT\)](#) and [3:11 \(NLT\)](#) he wanted to erase the day he was born, or be killed in the womb. In [Job 6:11-13 \(NLT\)](#) he gave up all hope. In [Job 7:7 \(NLT\)](#) he claimed he would never be happy again. In [Job 10:1 \(NLT\)](#) he is disgusted with his life. And in [Job 10:13-14 \(NLT\)](#) he questioned God’s motives in the situation. Clearly Job was suffering. Here’s what we can learn from his example.
  - a. Ask for prayer.** It will help, even if you are having a crisis of faith!
  - b. Receive the love and support of others.** Don’t pretend that you can be self-sufficient.
  - c. Accept help.** Whatever is offered, take it.
  - d. Express feelings.** God already knows what you feel. So at least be honest with Him.
- 4) When we feel like we can’t engage with God...FAITH it!** We may not want to speak to God, and that’s okay. But we can’t let our emotions have the last word. Even the Son of God struggled with similar emotions on the cross, when He cries out in [Matthew 27:45-46 \(NLT\)](#). No matter what our emotions are, faith will power us through! That’s why we study the Word of God; we need to know Him and speak His truth into our lives when we’re struggling. That’s the example laid out for us in [Psalm 42:2-5 \(NIV\)](#). By relying on scripture, we can confidently speak God’s blessings into our lives. God has the last word!

### DISCUSSION

- 1) HEAR** - Life is full of trials. We all have our Job moments. What have been the biggest challenges for you this year? What about your family members and close friends?
- 2) UNDERSTAND** - Doubt is a part of life. It’s only natural to question God when we experience some tragic event. And the people surrounding us may not help the situation. In fact, they may make it worse! All we can do is focus on God’s love. Acknowledge and be grateful for it, however hard that is. Ask yourself “Where am I looking for answers instead of love?” What comes to mind?
- 3) DO** - Someone in your life is going through a season of suffering. Maybe it’s you! Now is the time to show up and share in the grief, just like Job’s friends, or to receive support if you are the one suffering. Keep engaging with God, no matter how hopeless the situation appears. Commit this week to the Lord: say “I will put my hope in God!”