



Out of the Storm: Job & Jonah – Job 28 Wisdom

As we read the bible and lead others through it, it is helpful to ask four different 'types' of questions. This term we're categorising our questions according to the '**COMA** method' but not following the form strictly.

C = Context

O = Observation

M = Meaning
(interpretation)

A = Application

Pray for your time together in God's Word and for those who couldn't make it to group.

Opening Question: What is wisdom? What would people say it is? What do you say it is?

***Explain:**

"Over the last 6 weeks, we've been all the way through the book of Job. This week we dip back into chapter 28. It is most likely an interlude chapter on "wisdom" – it's not likely Job speaking, nor his friends, but the narrator."

"As we **Read Job 28**, focus on the poetic imagery and try to paint a mental picture of what is being said."

Focusing on verses 1-11

M: Turn to the person next to you, have a go at summarising the point of the mining illustration in your own words. What point is the author making?

O/M: What do these verses suggest about the character of precious and valuable things?

O/M: What is being said about human beings in these verses? (hint: vv.7-11)

Optional extra: This passage was written more than 2,500 years ago. How might the author's point be impacted if he were writing this today?

Focusing on verses 12-19

O: What is being said about the nature and character of wisdom?

C/M: How do verses 1-11 relate/contribute to these verses?

C/A: In light of the illustration in verses 1-11, What do these verses suggest about the place wisdom should have in our lives?

Focusing on verses 20-28

O: What is the problem/(s) that this chapter raises? (what verse do you get that from?)

M: Is this problem resolved in the chapter? How? How not?

M: Verse 28 is a common refrain in the Old Testament wisdom literature (e.g. Proverbs 9:10, Psalm 111:10). Why do you think God can summarise wisdom like this?

A: What do you think it means to 'fear the Lord'? (see Job 1:1,5,8,22; Job 2:3,10)

Pulling it all together

C: How does this chapter relate to or remind you of other parts of the book of Job?

C: How could you use this chapter to explain the dialogue between Job and his friends?

C: How could you use this chapter to summarise the resolution of the book of Job?

A: What is the implication of this chapter – and the whole book of Job – for humanity's pursuit of wisdom?

A: Read James 1:5, how is your understanding of this verse impacted having read Job 28?

A: How could what we've considered this week help you in your evangelism to others?

Pray

- From what you've looked at, try to draw out some things to pray for as a group.
- You could split into small groups, or men/women and:
 1. Share what you were struck with from the text
 2. Something personal you would like prayer for