"Who Do You Think You Are?"

Sunday, October 10, 2021, 10:30 a.m. Whitneyville Bible Church, Alto, MI Pastor Jonathan DeCou Job 42:1-6

BIG IDEA: You can make sense of suffering.

"Who is this who conceals My counsel with ignorance?"

Job 42:3a (CSB)

- Why God does NOT ask His questions.
 - o God is not seeking information.
 - God is not <u>explaining Himself</u>.
 - o God is not putting Job in his place.
- Why God DOES ask His questions.
 - We lack <u>perspective</u> and <u>understanding</u> about God as the CREATOR of the Universe.
 - We lack <u>perspective</u> and <u>understanding</u> about God as the SUSTAINER of the Universe.
 - We lack <u>perspective</u> and <u>understanding</u> about God as the MAINTAINER of the <u>Universe</u>.
- Job's good and right response to God's questions.
 - o Job <u>acknowledges</u> that God is <u>Sovereign</u>.
 - O Job confesses he contended with God in ignorance.
 - Job <u>admits</u> his <u>need</u> to be <u>instructed</u> by God.

- O Job recognizes suffering as his path to God-sense.
- Job repents.
- o Job discovers God's compassionate and merciful purpose.

BIG IDEA: You can make sense of suffering.

READ: Job 42:1-6

THINK: Consider Job's struggle with suffering and then ask yourself these questions: If Job were deemed "blameless and upright" before his time of suffering (1:1), in what ways has he become a changed person after? What "wonderful things" (v 3) does he understand now that he didn't before? Of what is Job repenting? Is ignorance a sin? How so? What do the "eyes" have that the "ears" never did? Does God always promise happy endings to the stories of His people? Why or why not? What would you say is the primary theme of the Book of Job: Suffering? Justice? Patience? Something else?

DO: Either in writing or in a prayer, tell God what you would like your rewards for faith and integrity to be. Identify how your perspective on your current circumstances may need to change after studying about Job. Tell one other person how in the worst of times you can maintain faith in God's ultimate purpose of compassion and mercy for your life.