

Are you a good friend? Lessons from the Book of Job

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Job, the faithful servant of God, was facing a test! His friends came to see him. One of them, Zophar, said to Job, "If you put away the sin that is in your hand and allow no evil to dwell in your tent, then you will lift up your face without shame" - Job 11:14.

This note of Job's friend is interesting because God himself vouched about Job to Satan that there was no one on earth like Job, that he was blameless and upright; a man who fears God and shuns evil (Job 1:8). Zophar judged Job incorrectly!

Brothers and sisters, some of us are like Zophar. We judge others with our knowledge and status of blessing and end up breaking them. We should understand that all things happen for good for those who love God (Romans 8:28). Let us not judge our brothers or sisters based on their tests and afflictions. God knows everything and nothing will happen without His knowledge. If we could, let us get in the gap and plead and pray for favor, mercy and well-being for those in affliction, pain, and suffering. Let us not get to them with our "correcting thoughts!" during those hard times, rather kneel and pray with them every day for their relief.

We are successful in getting the message of salvation to those in need on our first visit, then fail to show the interpretation of the salvation message with life! The message of the cross is the boldness to stand with and build up a brother or sister in need and pull them up from the fire of hell to life eternal. We may get minor burns sometimes.

Let us be people who bless others and praying honestly (not for showing them that we pray) for them!