

## Going Deeper Study Guide

# The Almighty God & The Smallness of Man

Text: Job 40:1–5

## Main Idea

When God reveals Himself as Almighty, our only right response is humble silence, repentance, and trust—never accusation.

## Key Themes

- God is **Almighty (El Shaddai)**
- Man is **small and limited**
- The danger of becoming a **“fault-finder”**
- The wisdom of **humility and silence**
- Christ as the **answer for silent sinners**

## Primary Passage

### Job 40:1–5 (ESV)

“Shall a faultfinder contend with the Almighty? He who argues with God, let him answer it...

Behold, I am of small account; what shall I answer you? I lay my hand on my mouth...”

## Section 1: The Fault-Finder

### Read:

- Job 40:1–2
- James 4:6–7

### Definition:

A **fault-finder** is one who:

- Brings an accusation against God
- Attempts to prove God wrong
- Judges God’s actions as unjust

👉 This is not just struggle—it is **putting God on trial**

 **Reflect:**

- When am I tempted to question God’s goodness or fairness?
- Do my thoughts ever assume I know better than God?
- How does pride show up in my response to hardship?

 **Dig Deeper:**

- How does James 4:6–7 correct the posture of a fault-finder?
- What is the relationship between pride and resisting God?

## Section 2: The Almighty (El Shaddai)

 **Read:**

- Job 38:1–4
- Isaiah 40:12–18, 25–28

 **Truth:**

God is:

- All-powerful
- All-wise
- Completely sovereign
- Under no obligation to explain Himself

👉 God defines reality—He is never subject to it

 **Reflect:**

- How does seeing God rightly change how I view my circumstances?
- Where have I minimized God in my thinking?
- What areas of life feel “out of control”—and how does God’s sovereignty speak to that?

 **Dig Deeper:**

- Why is it important that God is both powerful *and* wise?
- How does Isaiah 40 challenge our view of ourselves?

## Section 3: Man is Small

### Read:

- Job 40:3–5
- Isaiah 6:1–5

### Truth:

Job's response shows:

- Recognition of his smallness
- Awareness of his unworthiness
- The wisdom of silence

👉 “I lay my hand on my mouth” = **I have no case before God**

### Reflect:

- Do I resist silence before God, or embrace it?
- What would it look like to truly acknowledge my smallness?
- How does humility differ from feeling worthless?

### Dig Deeper:

- Compare Job's response with Isaiah's in Isaiah 6
- Why is humility the first step toward true wisdom?

## Section 4: Christ—The Answer for Silent Sinners

### Read:

- Romans 3:19–26
- Romans 10:9–13

### Truth:

- We stand before God **without justification**
- Our only response is silence
- But God provides the answer in Christ

👉 Where we have no defense, **Christ becomes our righteousness**

## Reflect:

- Do I live as though I need to justify myself before God?
- How does the gospel free me from trying to “defend my case”?
- What does it mean to rest in Christ as my mediator?

## Dig Deeper:

- Why must salvation come from outside of us?
- How does Christ restore what sin fractured?

## Section 5: Suffering, Sovereignty, and Trust

### Read:

- Romans 8:18–30
- 2 Corinthians 4:16–18

### Truth:

- The Christian life includes suffering
- God uses both blessing and hardship
- Suffering is not evidence of God’s failure

👉 God is working—even when we don’t understand

### Reflect:

- How do I typically respond to suffering?
- Do I expect a life of ease as a Christian?
- Where is God inviting me to trust Him more deeply?

### Dig Deeper:

- How does Romans 8 reframe suffering?
- What is God accomplishing through difficulty?

### Application

- Identify one area where you’ve been a “fault-finder”
- Confess pride and self-reliance

- Practice intentional **stillness before God** this week
- Rehearse truths about God’s sovereignty daily

## Key Takeaways

- God is Almighty—He is never in the wrong
- We are small—our understanding is limited
- Accusing God fractures fellowship
- Humility restores right posture
- Christ is our only hope before a holy God



## Discussion Questions (Family or Group)

1. What does it mean to be a “fault-finder,” and why is it dangerous?
2. Why is humility essential in our relationship with God?
3. How does the gospel change the way we respond to suffering?
4. What stood out most to you from Job’s response?
5. How can we grow in trusting God this week?



## Prayer Guide

- Praise God for His sovereignty and power
- Confess pride and self-reliance
- Ask for humility and trust
- Thank Him for Christ as your mediator
- Pray for endurance in suffering