

Going Further Study Guide

Job 32 — When to Speak, When to Be Silent

Big Idea: True wisdom begins with the fear of the Lord. Knowing when to speak—and how to speak—requires humility, restraint, and submission to God’s revealed truth rather than confidence in human wisdom.

Read: Job 32

Notice why Job’s friends fall silent, why Elihu speaks, and what motivates his words.

Key Truths from the Sermon

Wisdom Begins with the Fear of the Lord. Reverence for God produces humility, restraint, and careful speech. Silence before God often precedes right words about God (Prov. 9:10).

Silence Can Be Faithful—or Sinful. Silence becomes sinful when God’s character is misrepresented and truth is withheld.

Understanding Comes from God, Not Age. Age may bring experience, but wisdom comes from the Spirit of God (Job 32:8).

Righteous Anger Seeks God’s Glory. God-centered anger leads to truthful correction, not prideful argument.

Right Speech Requires God’s Word. Truthful speech must be grounded in Scripture, not tradition, opinion, or emotion.

God’s Sovereignty Does Not Cancel Responsibility. God works through faithful obedience, including speaking truth when necessary.

Reflect

- Am I more prone to speak too quickly—or stay silent out of fear?
- When I speak about God, am I careful to represent Him rightly?
- Do I rely on my experience, or on God’s Word and Spirit?

Prayer

Lord, teach me to fear You rightly. Guard my words from pride and error. Give me wisdom to know when to speak and humility to be silent when I should. May my words always glorify You. Amen.