

Perseverance:
Run The
Stop Sign

1In the land of Uz there lived a man whose name was Job. This man was blameless and upright; he feared God and shunned evil. 2He had seven sons and three daughters, 3 and he owned seven thousand sheep, three thousand camels, five hundred yoke of oxen and five hundred donkeys, and had a large number of servants. He was the greatest man among all the people of the East.

8Then the Lord said to Satan, "Have you considered my servant Job? There is no one on earth like him; he is blameless and upright, a man who fears God and shuns evil." 9"Does Job fear God for nothing?" Satan replied. 10"Have you not put a hedge around him and his household and everything he has? You have blessed the work of his hands, so that his flocks and herds are spread throughout the land.

11But now stretch out your hand and strike everything he has, and he will surely curse you to your face."

12The Lord said to Satan, "Very well, then, everything he has is in your power, but on the man himself do not lay a finger."

"Life's difficulties are not meant to defeat you, depress you, or even discourage you; they are meant to develop you."

7So Satan went out from the presence of the Lord and afflicted Job with painful sores from the soles of his feet to the crown of his head. 8Then Job took a piece of broken pottery and scraped himself with it as he sat among the ashes. 9His wife said to him, "Are you still maintaining your integrity? Curse God and die!" 10He replied, "You are talking like a foolish woman. Shall we accept good from God, and not trouble?" In all this, Job did not sin in what he said.

20At this, Job got up and tore his robe and shaved his head. Then he fell to the ground in worship 21and said: "Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked I will depart. The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away; may the name of the Lord be praised." 22In all this, Job did not sin by charging God with wrongdoing.

#### **Michael Jordan:**

"I've missed more than 9000 shots in my career. I've lost almost 300 games in the NBA. Twenty-six times I was trusted to take the game winning shot and missed. I've failed so many times in my life, it taught me that I don't like losing. So I'm going to do whatever it takes to not have that happen. I was successful, because I failed so much."

# Weekly Devotional <a href="Ephesians 2"><u>Ephesians 2</u></a>

10For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.