

Reflection: The book of Job is a long poetic account about a man wrestling with deep, dark questions. Job has been a good and righteous man, and yet he finds himself homeless, childless and covered with painful sores. At the end of the book, God finally responds to Job's questions, by reminding Job that he cannot possibly comprehend the mind of God or the reason bad things happen. While this may not be terribly comforting, we can draw comfort from knowing that our questions don't have satisfying answers, that our temporary problems will not last forever and that God can redeem the very worst that can happen.

The Refrain: Knowing the mind of God is impossible. Trusting the goodness of God is inspiring

FRIDAY 7-29-11

Read: Exodus 33:12-23 (<http://www.devotions.net/bible/00bible.htm>)

The Refrain: The holiness of God is more than I can handle.

Prayer: God, I am trying to figure you out. I'm trying to predict what you will do next, and what you might say. I want to know everything about you. But I know that you are so awesome, so amazing and so holy. You are beyond what I can understand and more glorious than anything in this world. So, I will rejoice when I experience just a fraction of your holiness. I will be grateful when I receive nuggets of your wisdom and witness revelations of your will. Help me to be content with knowing just a part of you.

Reflection: For years, Moses had experienced God in a cloud, as if God was hiding behind a curtain. So, Moses decided to be bold and ask God to fully reveal himself. Moses wanted the mystery of God to be revealed. God, however, knows better: if Moses saw all of God, then Moses would never need to use his faith and Moses might even see himself as God's equal. So, God shows his back to Moses – and I believe that Moses' faith is strengthened.

The Refrain: The holiness of God is more than I can handle.

SATURDAY 7-30-11

Read: Psalm 131 (<http://www.devotions.net/bible/00bible.htm>)

The Refrain: I won't get hung up on things I can't understand.

Prayer: God, I won't get frustrated when I can't know all the answers today. I won't be discouraged when things are left undone. I won't be bitter if my grief doesn't have closure or if justice is delayed. God, I will trust in you today, refusing to be troubled by what I can't understand.

Reflection: David Wilcox sings about tough decisions and the mysteries of life in his song, "Hold It Up to The Light":

*It's the choice of a lifetime - I'm almost sure
I will not live my life in between any more
If I can't be certain of all that's in store
This far it feels so right
I will hold it up - hold it up to the light
Hold it up to the light, hold it up to the light*

*The search for my future has brought me here
This is more than I'd hoped for, but sometimes I fear
That the choice I was made for will someday appear
And I'll be too late for that flight*

*It's too late - to be stopped at the crossroads
Each life here - each a possible way
But wait - and they all will be lost roads
Each road's getting shorter the longer I stay*

*Now as soon as I'm moving - my choice is good
This way comes through right where I prayed that it
would
If I keep my eyes open and look where I should
Somehow all of the signs are in sight
If I hold it up to the light*

*I said God, will you bless this decision
I'm so scared. Is my life at stake?
But I see if you gave me a vision
Would I ever have reason to use my faith?*

*I was dead with deciding - I was afraid to choose
I was mourning the loss of the choices I'd lose
But there's no choice at all if I don't make my move
And trust that the timing is right
Yes and hold it up to the light*

The Refrain: I won't get hung up on things I can't understand.