

Job 38:1-7, 34-36

Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost, Sunday between October 16 and October 22

The Season after Pentecost is the period between the Day of Pentecost and the First Sunday of Advent. This season makes up half of the calendar year, and its liturgical color is green. It is a time to focus on the life and growth of the Church in the world, empowered by the gift of the presence of the Holy Spirit. 12th-century mystic Hildegard von Bingen captured the essence of this season when she wrote, "The Holy Spirit is the greening power of God. Our task is to blossom."



Scripture

Then the Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind:

"Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge?

Hitch up your belt like the fighter you are,
I will question you, and you shall declare to me.

"Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth?

Tell me, if you have understanding.
Who determined its measurements—surely you know!

Or who stretched the line upon it?

On what were its bases sunk,
or who laid its cornerstone
when the morning stars sang together
and all the heavenly beings shouted for joy?

"Can you lift up your voice to the clouds,
so that a flood of waters may cover you?
Can you send forth lightnings, so that they may go
and say to you, 'Here we are'?"

Who has put wisdom in the inward parts,
or given understanding to the mind?
Who has the wisdom to number the clouds?

[Includes scripture from *The Inclusive Bible*]



Questions

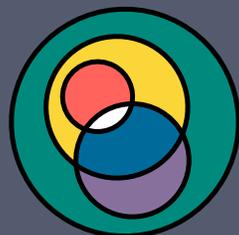
- After all Job had been through, he wanted to see God and ask God why he suffered as he did. How did God show up to meet Job?
- The story of Job is part of the wisdom literature in the Bible—a collection of books that wonders: how does our world work, and what's the best way to live in it? God answered Job's question with more questions. What questions came to you when you heard this story?
- God knows so much about the world because God designed and created it! That is what God showed Job. What is your favorite thing to learn about in the world?
- Share something interesting you've learned recently. How did it feel to go from not knowing to knowing?
- What is something you've always been curious or wondered about? What can you do to learn more about it?

Look it Up!

Look at the sky and learn about what's happening in Earth's atmosphere. Is it cloudy? Find out what types of clouds are in the sky. Is it raining? Learn about the water cycle. Is it sunny? Explore how photosynthesis works.



mini
REVOLUTIONS





Activity

God created everything in the world! When we study science, we study God's world and learn how our Creator made things. It is good to be curious and interested in creation!

What are some places we can get new information about the world? *Examples: books, movies, television, or the internet.*

In this story, Job was suffering and frustrated. His friends were giving him advice, but he didn't think they were right!

It can be hard to figure out what is true, especially when we use the internet. The internet can be a great place to learn, but not all the information is trustworthy. Anyone can make a video, post an article, or make a website and say whatever they want.

If you are able, look up the **Dihydrogen Monoxide Research Division** homepage on a search engine and show the participants. You may consider printing copies to show in a group. Discuss together if this is a reliable website.

Dihydrogen Monoxide is actually a scientific name for a water molecule! This website was made as a joke to teach people to use knowledge instead of just trusting the internet. Discuss how to tell if the information on the internet is true or false. Below are some ideas to get you started.

True:

- The author has a background in the area
- The website tells facts without opinion or emotion
- Agrees with scientific books or what you learned in school
- Not many advertisements
- There are connections to research articles or other sources independent of the website
- Dates on the page

False:

- The website is trying to sell something
- Focused on just one person's opinion
- It seems dramatic, scary, or emotional
- The author has no background in the area
- No connections to other outside sources or making claims without explaining

Even though God's knowledge is infinite, we can still use our knowledge to check websites.

Alternate Activity

Materials:

Blindfold (a disposable mask works well for this)	Small commonplace objects (i.e. pen, eraser, bracelet, rock, etc.)
---	--

In this story, Job is frustrated. His friends come to help. For this game, you are going to have your friends help you solve a mystery.

Blindfold one person or have them shut their eyes tightly and place one of the commonplace objects you gathered into their hands. They can feel the object and ask the leader or their friends yes or no questions about the object to identify it.

If you have a large group, you can time the rounds. If you have a very large group, break up into pairs and race to see which team can solve the problem first. If you are virtual, have one person turn around and show everyone else the object on the screen.

What did your friend(s) say that helped you solve the mystery? While Job's friends tried to help him figure out what was happening, wise friends can help us figure out what to do when we feel lost or frustrated.



Micropractice

When we want to know something new, we look it up immediately. Next time you search for an answer on the internet, first look up to the sky and be filled with wonder. There is so much to discover in this world!

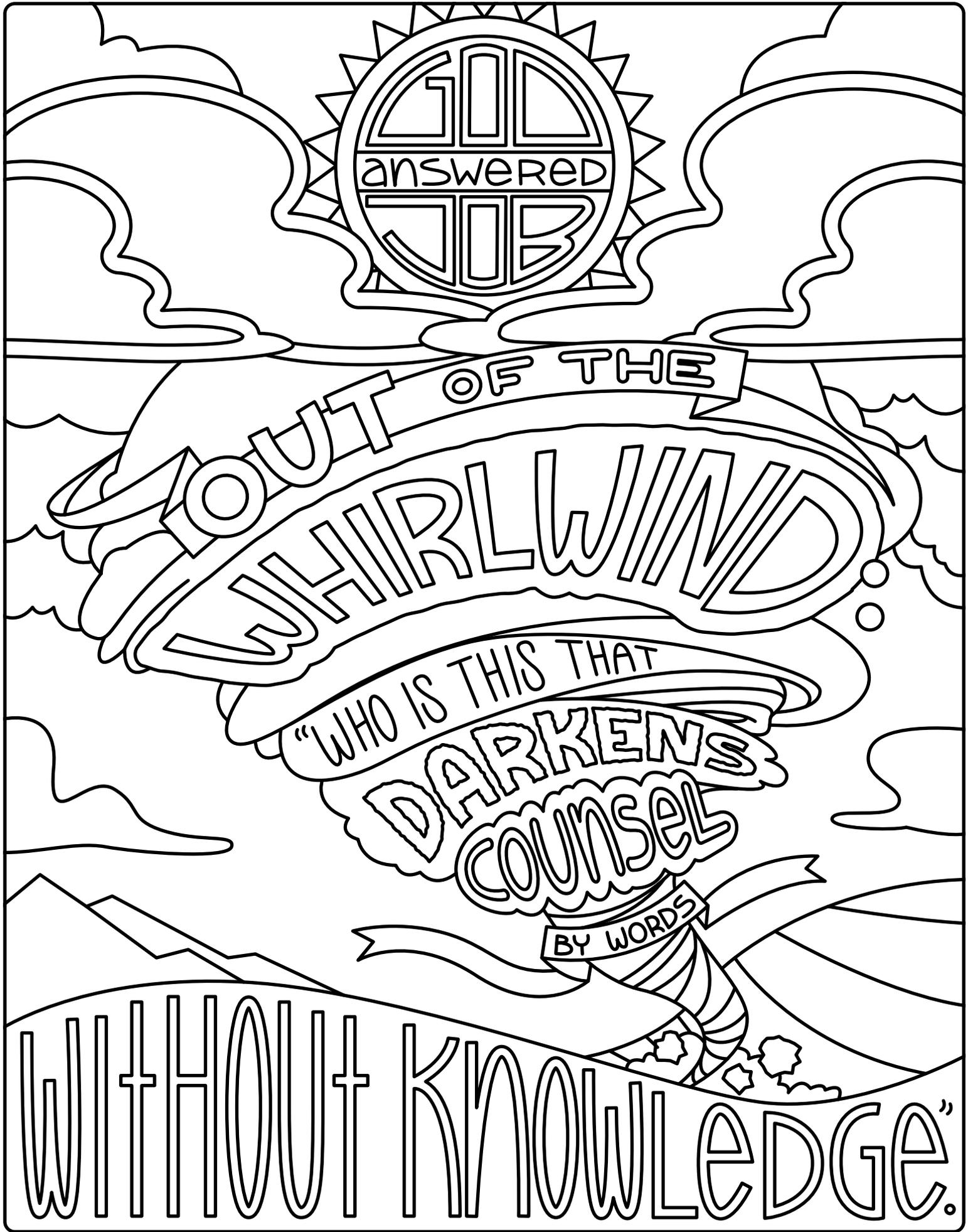


Download a graphic to share with your community and on social media. You can download it here: illstrtdm.in/minirevBAP21



Prayer

Dear God, thank you for giving us knowledge. Thank you for the internet and books, which help us learn about your creation! Help us use science and education to know you better. Amen.



GOD
answered
JOB

TORN OUT OF THE
WHIRLWIND

“WHO IS THIS THAT
DARKENS
COUNSEL

BY WORDS’

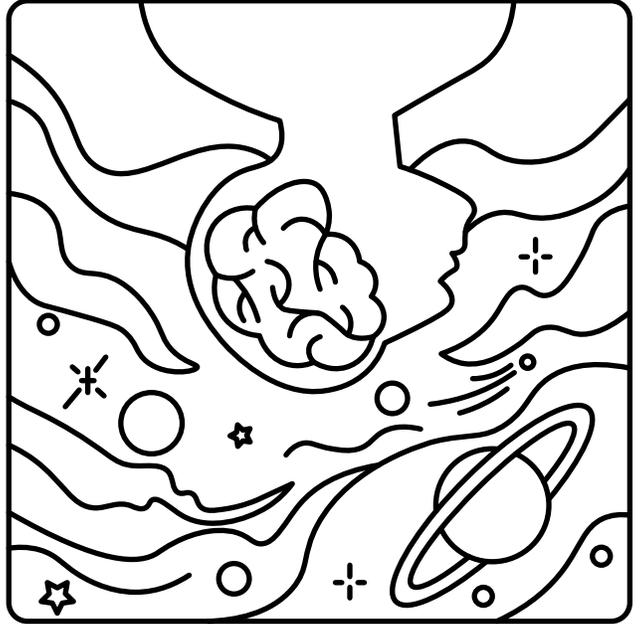
WITHOUT KNOWLEDGE.’’

1. Job was feeling sad, mad, and confused. He didn't know why he was suffering from a lot of loss and pain because he had been kind and loving his whole life. Finally, he cried out, "Why is this happening?"



2. Job's friends tried to help him figure it out, but their answers didn't help. Job wanted an answer from God about why he was suffering. Suddenly, a swirling wind showed up. It was God! Did God have an answer for Job?

4. God saw Job's hurt and helped him see there is so much in our world humans cannot understand. Our brains are only as big as our skulls, but God's knowledge and wisdom are larger than the never-ending universe.



3. God answered Job's question with a lot more questions: Who created the earth and filled the sky with stars? Can you tell the lightning where to go? Can you count the clouds? Or use your voice to make it rain?