

## DON'T BELIEVE IT! (Part 4)

Scripture used: [Job 42: 7-10 \(NLT\)](#)

### OVERVIEW

This is week four of our sermon series “Don’t Believe It!” Pastor Hurmon is exploring untruths that many of us cling to. We are continuing to explore the story of Job, this time focusing on the incorrect assumption “I don’t need anyone’s help!” This is such a common belief that we don’t even notice it sometimes. It usually stems from repeated events in our past where our trust was broken. These painful experiences harden us, and teach us not to rely on other people. But this is actually a huge mistake because we miss out on the amazing blessings of an interdependent life. God designed us for family, for fellowship, and for community. No matter what happens in our lives - and none of us have it worse than Job - we must still be willing to accept help. Following Jesus means accepting the unearned blessing of eternal life, and passing along the fruits of that blessing in any way we can!

### KEY POINTS

- 1) **“I don’t need anyone’s help” hides deeper untruths.** What we are really saying is “I don’t need anyone.” And behind that, we are actually saying is “I don’t trust anyone.” This shows up in all kinds of ways. A brilliant student who can’t ask the professor when she’s stumped. A manager at work who can’t delegate small tasks. An alcoholic who refuses to get treatment. Each of them is avoiding help in his or her own way.
- 2) **Our past experiences and pain taught us not to rely on others.** This broken world inflicts pain on people relentlessly. Even the people who love us often wound us without meaning to. Job’s friends show how easy it is to destroy someone’s trust. At the worst moment in his life, Job’s closest friends blamed him for everything that was happening in [Job 5:3 \(NLT\)](#), [Job 8:3-4 \(NLT\)](#), and [Job 22:4-7 \(NLT\)](#). He finally broke down, feeling completely betrayed and abandoned by God in [Job 30:20-22 \(NLT\)](#). Job had hit rock bottom, and was all alone.
- 3) **God shaped us to need help from other people.** Children are dependent on their parents. Eventually they mature and become independent (or at least we pray to God they do!). There is another stage after independence, though. People can freely choose to become interdependent on others. We must learn to share each other’s burdens as Paul explains in [Galatians 6:2 \(NLT\)](#). Even in [Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 \(NLT\)](#) the wisdom of interdependence is clear: we can reach out to others for help when it’s needed. And everyone needs to help and to be helped. It’s how we demonstrate God’s radical love!
- 4) **Embrace the process of finding the perfect fit, place, and alignment.** Pastor Hurmon used a jigsaw puzzle to embrace what interdependence looks like. Each piece is shaped a particular way, and only fits when it’s in the right spot, aligned the right way. Then we fit together easily with others! This means that the gaps we have are not sources of shame or anxiety. They are actually opportunities to team up with others. We can shine where others are weak, and *vice versa*.
- 5) **Practice forgiveness with humility.** Job was despairing as his story ended. To restore his fortunes, God told Job’s friends to bring their offerings to him in [Job 42:8 \(NLT\)](#). In fact, God would only accept their sacrifices if it was Job who prayed on their behalf. Despite how he had been treated, Job swallowed his pride, trusted God, and acted as the priest. In other words, he became interdependent again. The result? God immediately began blessing Job again, eventually growing his wealth to double what it had been before!

### DISCUSSION

- 1) **HEAR** - We are born dependent, then eventually learn to become independent. But what about the idea of becoming interdependent? Is that an exciting idea...or a scary one? Why?
- 2) **UNDERSTAND** - Pastor Hurmon explained how the right fit and the right place aren’t enough. We also need the right alignment. This is true for what we do, who we love, where we live, and many other critical aspects of our lives. What’s the main source of tension and pain in your life? Could it be that everything is actually perfect, except your alignment?
- 3) **DO** - Pray to God to reveal those parts of life where stubbornness or pride is blocking progress. Declare to the Lord “I will ask and forgive!”