

Bible Readings Week 234 - w/c 2/5/21

Monday: Acts 10:1-23. Think of the lengths and efforts God went to in order to bring Cornelius to faith. He sent an angel to Cornelius, and then gave Peter a vision and a specific word in verses 19 & 20. What does this tell you about God's concern for anybody who is seeking after him? How does this encourage your praying?

Tuesday: Job 15:1-35. Sometimes what is said to Job by his friends is true, but the manner of speech shows little empathy or understanding. There are times when truth alone is harsh and hurtful, if it is not accompanied by grace and love. Jesus balanced both perfectly (John 1:14). How do you balance truth and grace in your dealings with others?

Wednesday: Ezra 8:1-36. Verse 22 reveals Ezra's reasons for calling them to pray and fast. He didn't want to ask anyone else for help, but was expanding his own faith and trust in God's provision. When was the last time you stepped out and had to trust in God to provide instead of your own abilities or the help of other people?

Thursday: Ecclesiastes 5:1-20. The opening verses of this chapter remind us of the importance of fulfilling our promises to God. When you came to faith or in the period since, are there any promises you have made and not fulfilled? Ask God to search your heart and reveal anything that you need to do to fulfil your vows to him.

Friday: Nahum 3:1-19 Verse 19 is a terrible statement on Nineveh and Assyria. The word that summed up Nineveh for so many people was the word "Cruelty". If you had to use a single word to describe how others see you what would it be? What would you want it to be? How can you serve others to improve your reputation?

Weekend: 3 John 1-14 It should be an immense privilege to be mentioned in scripture but not for Diotrophes! He is described as one "who loves to be first" because pride and status mattered too much to him and probably for that reason wanted nothing to do with John, but instead "gossiped maliciously" and refused to show hospitality to other disciples. What can you learn and practice from his bad example to help be a good example to others?