

Bible Readings Week 236 - w/c 16/5/21

Monday: Acts 11:1-30. Notice verse 14. Cornelius didn't get saved alone – his whole household came to faith. There are many examples of household salvation in the Bible: Rahab (Joshua 6:17), Lydia (Acts 16:15), the jailer (Acts 16:31). Who in your family are not yet saved? Which “prodigals” do you know among your friends? Pray for them today.

Tuesday: Job 17:1-16. Job refers to himself in v6. He felt desolate and rejected. We have another who was spat upon and reviled by other people – and he did it all for us. The God who ultimately intervened in Job's life, has intervened in ours by bearing our judgement and our shame. Thank God for Jesus!

Wednesday: Ezra 10:1-44. As the Israelites worshipped, they became conscious of personal sin and national sin. What do you need to confess to God and turn away from? What in our nation needs God to show us mercy instead of the judgement we deserve? Spend time confessing your personal sin or interceding for the sin in our nation.

Thursday: Proverbs 28:10-18. Sooner or later, dubious practices and ruthless activity result in a fall from a position of security. Rupert & James Murdoch, Amy Winehouse and others are reminders that not living with moral integrity will ultimately result in tragedy & failure. Put v13 into practice today – just as in yesterday's reading.

Friday: Habakkuk 2:1-20. God always answers prayer. Read verse 3 again twice. What prayers have you prayed for years and not seen any answer from heaven yet? Things may even have got worse as they did for Habakkuk. But God is faithful – and those who are walking with him live by faith and trust in his character even when things are not going well (see v4).

Weekend: Jude v17-25. Verses 20 – 23 tell us 4 things to do as we wait for Jesus' second coming. Build your faith by reading God's word, pray in the Spirit, keep ourselves in God's love (How do we do it?) and be merciful to those who doubt. Which of these is easiest for you? Which is the hardest? Ask God to strengthen your strengths as well as your weaknesses in these areas.