

Week 144 w/c 11/8/19

Monday: Luke 14:1-24. In the story of the great feast in verses 16-24, Jesus told of the excuses people gave for not coming. Possessions (v18), work (v19) and family (v20) can all prevent people from responding to God. What excuses do your non-Christian friends make? Pray for them and for wisdom to respond to the issues in their lives.

Tuesday: Numbers 6:1-27. Taking a vow as a Nazarite, (the term means “separated”) was an outward indication of wholehearted devotion to God. We are similarly called to be set apart for God’s service (“sanctified”). What are the outward evidences of your separation to God? How will you express your total commitment to Jesus today?

Wednesday: 2 Kings 9:1-37. The prophet is sent by Elisha with what is called in the New Testament a “message of wisdom”. Jehu doesn’t take it fully to heart until others recognise the message as appropriate (v13). The opinion and approval of trusted advisors is always important and is one way to test what God says to you. Have you built the good relationships with people who you can trust to give good advice? Thank God for them today!

Thursday: Proverbs 18:1-8. These verses contain some good principles about how we should speak. We should not impose our opinions on others (v2), be careful in what we say (v6), and not influence people inappropriately with gossip about others which will colour their opinion of the other person (v8). Which of these is most important for you to take on board today?

Friday: Ezekiel 12:1-28. Every disaster and invasion that came upon Israel was in order that they might “know the Lord”. Now at the end of this chapter God reminds them that he is going to act quickly, and they shouldn’t put off responding to him because they think it is not going to happen until sometime in the future. Are you in danger of assuming that you have more time than you actually have to respond to what God is asking of you?

Saturday: 2 Thessalonians 2:13-17. What does it mean for you to “stand firm” and “hold fast” to the teachings about Jesus? Are there any areas where you are in danger of compromising, or changing your opinion from what you have been taught? Remember that God can encourage our hearts and strengthen us when we are in danger of being discouraged and feel weak (v17). Praise Him that he always gives us the grace we need, when we need it!