

## May 6th Readings

[HOSEA 4:1-5:15](#)

[2 JOHN 1:1-13](#)

[PSALM 125:1-5](#)

[PROVERBS 29:9-11](#)

### Psalm 125: 1-5

I often get impatient and feel like I need to take control of my life and set things straight. It may be because I have been routinely late to work, or frustrated with situations out of my control ...

No matter what the reason, I feel that if I am in charge I could make it right! However, I normally make it worse. In the past I have had to remind myself that I am not in control, that God is in control.

This passage reminds us that the Lord protects his people, that he is in charge and that no matter what, his will be done. Trust in the Lord and rejoice today.

## May 7th Readings

[HOSEA 6:1-9:17](#)

[3 JOHN 1:1-15](#)

[PSALM 126:1-6](#)

[PROVERBS 29:12-14](#)

### 3 JOHN 1:1-15

I often look around the church and see the faces of those that I consider family and rejoice to be surrounded by such great Christians. However, I am saddened to see very few people around my age. My generation has not kept close to the faith and many have fallen away, but I am very excited to see the thriving faith of our youth group and young children. The faith of our youth and young children is amazing and I praise God whenever we baptize one of them.

I urge the youth to stay strong and keep the faith as you grow and spread the good news wherever you go.

May 8th Readings

[HOSEA 10:1-14:9](#)

[JUDE 1:1-25](#)

[PSALM 127:1-5](#)

[PROVERBS 29:15-17](#)

JUDE 1:1-25

I recall a time when I was a young man struggling with the thoughts of being unworthy. Unworthy of love, trust, friends, and forgiveness. I felt that I had to be perfect in every way, and if I failed then I was worthless. Have you ever felt this way?

Many brothers and sisters would tell me that "Please know that you are loved, that you are made whole in Christ, and that you are forgiven!" It took years before I understood that this was true. The moment I realized this was when an elder at my church in Lubbock, TX, told me that when God looks down from heaven he can only see the blood of his son covering me. If I make a mistake the blood does not stop covering me, it makes me whole and new again.

So I say this to all of you who are struggling, or have someone in your life telling you that you are not worthy.

Please know that you are loved, that you are made whole in Christ, and that you are forgiven!

## May 9th Readings

[JOEL 1:1-3:21](#)

[REVELATION 1:1-20](#)

[PSALM 128:1-6](#)

[PROVERBS 29:18](#)

### REVELATION 1:1-20

When I was younger I remember hearing an older man at my church ask God to come back soon during his prayer and I did not know how to feel at the time. I thought about the request he said during his prayer for a long time and worried that I would never be that strong. Then I learned about how, not only did Jesus die for us, he conquered Hell and took that away from us. We have nothing to worry about. As I have grown older I have realized that I am ready to be with my father whenever he is ready for me. To live with no physical or emotional pain, to be in Heaven with all the saints, to rejoice eternally. Oh what a great day it will be to walk the golden streets and move into that mansion.

## May 10th Readings

[AMOS 1:1-3:15](#)

[REVELATION 2:1-17](#)

[PSALM 129:1-8](#)

[PROVERBS 29:19-20](#)

### PSALM 129:1-8

Brothers and sisters, there will be a time in this world where you will be persecuted because of your faith, and I know it will not be easy, but God will carry you through. It may come from a friend, family member, or even a fellow churchmember. I do not know where the persecution will come from or who it will be, but please remember to take heart because God has overcome this world. The devil is a crafty deceiver that prowls around like a roaring lion looking for anyone to devour, but God is stronger and has already paid the price for you.

What is there to worry about, what is there to fear? God is on our side and nothing can stand against us.

#### May 11th Readings

[AMOS 4:1-6:14](#)

[REVELATION 2:18-3:6](#)

[PSALM 130:1-8](#)

[PROVERBS 29:21-22](#)

#### PSALM 130:1-8

Reading this passage, I know that I need to spend more time in prayer, study, and application of God's word. Doing so will strengthen me and will help me by filling in the gaps where I am weak. God is always there listening to us like a parent to a small child. He is helping us grow and letting us make our own choices. He rejoices when we follow him and choose him, and is patient when we are stubborn and rebellious. What is amazing is that God welcomes us back with open arms just like the parable of the prodigal son. Too often we treat God like a waiter and only ask him for the things we want. Too often we treat God like a doctor and ask him to only heal us. God wants us to be with him always during the good times, the scary times, the sad times, and for eternity. God wants his children to be part of him forever. Brothers and Sisters you are wanted, Loved, and Cherished. Turn to him always in good times and bad and live with God as if nothing else matters, because it doesn't.

#### May 12th Readings

[AMOS 7:1-9:15](#)

[REVELATION 3:7-22](#)

[PSALM 131:1-3](#)

[PROVERBS 29:23](#)

REVELATION 3:7-22

“I am coming quickly; hold fast what you have, so that no one will take your crown.”

I think this is a powerful statement in Revelation. Hold fast! Watch out! Be alert! I am coming back! These are not warnings but guarantees. We must hold to our faith no matter what and trust in him. He is the way, the truth, and the light. In this world nothing else matters and we need to rejoice in that. We waste too much time worrying over trivial things and lose focus on our Lord. How great is the Lord that he wants each and every one of us to live with him forever?