

DAILY READINGS

Sunday	Hebrews 2:17-18
Monday	Philippians 2:1-11; Psalm 89:1-4; Proverbs 17:13-15
Tuesday	John 17:1-26; Psalm 89:5-11; Proverbs 17:16-18
Wednesday	Romans 1:1-7; Psalm 89:12-17; Proverbs 17:19-21
Thursday	Romans 1:8-15; Psalm 89:18-26; Proverbs 17:22-24
Friday	Romans 1:16-32; Psalm 89:27-33; Proverbs 17:25-28
Saturday	Romans 2:1-11; Psalm 89:34-41; Proverbs 18:1-3

DEVOTIONAL: READ HEBREWS 2:17-18

When Jesus came to earth, He became a man just like us. While still being fully God as part of the Trinity, He also became fully man. He didn't just appear human but experienced human life fully. Because of this, we can trust that Jesus is able to understand and fully empathize with us.

In Hebrews, it says that He became our merciful High Priest. A priest was someone who stood between God and humans. The priest represented God's purposes to the people and the needs of the people to God. However, like so many human leaders, the priests of Israel failed. Human priests were themselves in need of saving. There was no one who could adequately speak for fallen people. No one understood the pain of their brokenness.

Then came Jesus. Because He is perfect and without our fallen nature, He can serve God without corruption.

He deserves to be our priest and can perfectly represent God to us.

Yet, because He was human, He understands. He knows what it's like to be you. Have you been betrayed? He understands. Have you felt shame? He understands. Have you been condemned? Have you been abused? Have you been disappointed? Have you been scared, lonely, tired, angry, or overwhelmed? He understands.

He experienced all the pain and consequences of our fallen world without ever giving into any of its temptations. We could never reach God on our own. So God came to us. He sat with us. He walked among us. And to this day, we can come close to a God who understands. Nothing we share will ever shock or embarrass Him. He knows. He knows what it's like to be you. He understands.

REFLECTION

Why is it important that God became fully human?

Does Jesus seem approachable to you? Does He seem like someone you could be vulnerable with? Why or why not? What shapes how you see Him?

What is something you are dealing with that seems particularly difficult right now? Jesus understands! Confess that to Him and invite Him to help you. Consider bringing someone else to walk alongside you.

DISCUSSION

Who are people in your life you can talk about anything with?

PRAYER

Jesus, I want to look more like You. Too often, following the system of this world, I try to promote myself. I try to get more, be better, rise through the ranks, and find my worth in myself and what others think of me.

But You, humble King, did not consider equality with God something to use to Your own advantage. You chose to step into this world to seek out the hurting, the hiding, the lost... people, like me. You extended a hand of empathy toward broken sinners living without hope. People, like me. You understand everything I experience and what it means to live in a broken world. I know that I can trust You and bring my feelings, thoughts, fears, and brokenness to You. You understand.

I cannot comprehend this compassion. I cannot imagine giving up the glory of heaven to live among sinners like me in this fallen world. But You are the definition of love, and You are relentless in Your pursuit of those in need. Break my heart for the hurting around me, mend it again in Your love, and fill it with Your compassion for the brokenness around me. Help me look more like You. Amen.