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Wrestling with Job: Confronting a Corrupt Judiciary while Coming to Terms with Oneself

This reflection takes up a series of Bible Sharing sessions in an Indonesian jail as prisoners read the Book of Job from its legendary opening, through the debates with so-called friends, the voice in the tempest and the unlikely fairytale ending. Reading and reflecting they grappled with their broken selves and their floundering families at home, with a corrupt judiciary and a primitive detainment, with who they are and whom they might become, and within the whole conundrum radically changed images of the God in whom they learnt to believe and trust and finally embrace – the latter finally bringing about deep transformation. Each phase of the Job narrative both reflected and reacted to the prisoners' experience, not always positively. This is a story of conversion from failure in the past to a hope-filled future, from resignation to a new-found determination, from a religion of reprisals to a religion of faith, from a judgemental God to a God of mercy and compassion.

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