

FAITH COMES BY HEARING Bible Study – 4.10.24 (for 4.14.24)

FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 6:4-9

⁴“Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. ⁵You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. ⁶And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. ⁷You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and

when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. ⁸You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. ⁹You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

- 1) In the opening words of this passage, Moses presents who our attention and focus in all things should be on. Who is it and what aspects are we called to dwell on?
- 2) How did Moses set this precedent to be acted upon in everyday life?
- 3) This emphasis was to be impressed upon the next generation. How would these rhythms do so? How do they still do so?

Second Reading: Ephesians 4:11-16

¹¹And he gave the apostles, gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, ¹²to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, ¹³until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, ¹⁴so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by

the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. ¹⁵Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, ¹⁶from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

- 1) Paul tells us God gave "A PEST" (Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Shepherds, and Teachers) to the church in order to inspire the saints. Through these 5-fold ministries, what happens in the church?
- 2) These ministries are done with intentional effort. Why?
- 3) Paul showcases that what comes from this activity is we see more and more people "growing up" in Christ. Why does this matter and how does this inspire you?

GOSPEL: Luke 9:1-6, 10

¹And he called the twelve together and gave them power and authority over all demons and to cure diseases, ²and he sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal. ³And he said to them, "Take nothing for your journey, no staff, nor bag, nor bread, nor money; and do not have two tunics. ⁴And whatever house you enter, stay there, and from there depart. ⁵And wherever they do not receive you,

when you leave that town shake off the dust from your feet as a testimony against them." ⁶And they departed and went through the villages, preaching the gospel and healing everywhere.

¹⁰On their return the apostles told him all that they had done. And he took them and withdrew apart to a town called Bethsaida.

- 1) How does it make you feel knowing that Jesus sent His disciples to do something they may not have felt totally equipped to do? Has that ever happened to you?
- 2) What tasks are they to carry out?
- 3) How does Jesus' model of leadership lead to a deepened relationship with Him? How has it done so for you?