

Faith Comes by Hearing Bible Study – 9.24.25 (For 9.28.25)

First Reading: Genesis 12:1-3

¹Now the Lord said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. ²And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

1. The last sentence of chapter 11 tells us that Abram's father, Terah, died. How does God's coming to Abram at that moment of his life shape the words He says?
2. In God's address to Abram, some form of the word “bless” shows up five times. For what reason does God emphasize this word and what does that teach us?
3. How will Abram experience this blessing from God?

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 9:19-25

¹⁹For though I am free from all, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win more of them. ²⁰To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though not being myself under the law) that I might win those under the law. ²¹To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (not being outside the law of God but under the law of Christ) that I might win those outside the law. ²²To the weak I became weak, that I might win the

weak. I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some. ²³I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share with them in its blessings.

²⁴Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it.

²⁵Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable.

1. Paul emphasizes what drives all his missionary endeavors. What does he share that is? How does Paul live out that emphasis?
2. Paul also points to something that is shared in a community when we live the way he describes. What is it that Paul wants to share in, and wants the Christian Church to also experience?
3. In verses 24–25, Paul compares spiritual discipline to athletic training; what correlations is he making regarding our faith? How is this meant to impact the way we live?

Gospel: Matthew 28:18-20

¹⁸And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the

Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

1. After Jesus' resurrection, He taught His disciples that there is still a plan and purpose to their lives. What is to be the emphasis of our lives?
2. How do we carry out Jesus' great commission, as He tells us here? In what ways have you experienced the joy that comes from carrying His commission in your life?
3. Jesus also shows us that we do not carry this out alone, but with Him. How does knowing Jesus is with you encourage you to reach out to others with His love?