Faith Comes by Hearing Bible Study – 11.5.25 (For 11.9.25)

First Reading: Psalm 139:1-6

¹O Lord, you have searched me and known me!

²You know when I sit down and when I rise up:

you discern my thoughts from afar.

³You search out my path and my lying down

and are acquainted with all my ways.

⁴Even before a word is on my tongue, behold, O Lord, you know it altogether.

⁵You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.

⁶Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high; I cannot attain it.

- 1. David begins this psalm with a declaration about God's watchful eye. What does he mean that God has searched and known him? How would we feel about God doing the same to us?
- 2. David also shares about what God knows about him and us. What specifics does God know? How is this meant to be comforting?
- 3. David writes that all this points to God's infinite knowledge. How is God's omniscience (all-knowing) humbling? How is it encouraging?

Second Reading: Hebrews 4:12-16

¹²For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. ¹³And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

¹⁴Since then we have a great high priest

who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. ¹⁵For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

- 1. The author of Hebrews shows us how powerful God's Word is. What ability does the author share the word has?
- 2. Where does the word and what it does point us?
- 3. How does what the author shares about Jesus being help us understand His nature?

Gospel: Luke 12:4-12

⁴"I tell you, my friends, do not fear those who kill the body, and after that have nothing more that they can do. ⁵But I will warn you whom to fear: fear him who, after he has killed, has authority to cast into hell. Yes, I tell you, fear him! ⁶Are not five sparrows sold for two pennies? And not one of them is forgotten before God. ⁷Why, even the hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not; you are of more value than many sparrows.

⁸"And I tell you, everyone who acknowledges me before men, the Son of

Man also will acknowledge before the angels of God, ⁹but the one who denies me before men will be denied before the angels of God. ¹⁰And everyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven, but the one who blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven. ¹¹And when they bring you before the synagogues and the rulers and the authorities, do not be anxious about how you should defend yourself or what you should say, ¹²for the Holy Spirit will teach you in that very hour what you ought to say."

- 1. Jesus shares in these words matters we can get focused on and make priority in our lives. What matters does He share that we can get wrapped up in?
- 2. What is the connection between not fearing those who can kill the body and knowing God's intimate care? How do these ideas work together to provide assurance?
- 3. Jesus offers a promise in verses 11–12 regarding what to do when brought before authorities so that we do not deny Him. Who is the one who will speak for believers? How does this promise connect with the theme of trusting God rather than fearing people?