

Table Group

Week of October 4, 2021

Hebrews 4:12-16

¹² because God's word is living, active, and sharper than any two-edged sword. It penetrates to the point that it separates the soul from the spirit and the joints from the marrow. It's able to judge the heart's thoughts and intentions. ¹³ No creature is hidden from it, but rather everything is naked and exposed to the eyes of the one to whom we have to give an answer.

¹⁴ Also, let's hold on to the confession since we have a great high priest who passed through the heavens, who is Jesus, God's Son; ¹⁵ because we don't have a high priest who can't sympathize with our weaknesses but instead one who was tempted in every way that we are, except without sin.

¹⁶ Finally, let's draw near to the throne of favor with confidence so that we can receive mercy and find grace when we need help

"Have you nothing you desire to keep secret?" We laugh and squirm a bit about this question as it is part of the personal examination that John Wesley calls to our attention. However, this passage from Hebrews tells us that everything is exposed to the Divine Creator – even if we try to keep it hidden. How have you experienced God's invitation to approach the throne of God? Do you willingly expose your self-concerned thoughts and deeds or do you try to cover them with excuses and explanations? Have you experienced the throne of God as a throne of judgement or a throne of grace and a source of help?

Ponder these questions and share as you are comfortable:

- *What known sins have you committed since our last meeting?*
- *What temptations have you met with?*
- *How were you delivered?*
- *What have you thought, said, or done, of which you doubt whether it be sin or not?*
- *Have you nothing you desire to keep secret?*