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### PRAYER

Thank you, God, for inviting us to hear your Gospel and respond with our lives. Let us grow in confidence in your grace! Thank you for welcoming us. In Jesus' name, Amen!

### WARM UP

(OPTIONAL)

Apart from Jesus, if you could invite one famous person (dead or alive) to your birthday party, who would you invite and why?

### NOTES

## WORD

<sup>12</sup> For 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. <sup>13</sup> And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account. <sup>14</sup> Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. <sup>15</sup> For 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. <sup>16</sup> Let 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.

[Hebrews 4:12-16 \(ESV\)](#)

## GUIDE QUESTIONS

(NUMBERED ACCORDING TO LEVEL OF DEPTH AND READINESS TO SHARE)

1. On a scale from 1 to 10 (1 = never, 10 = always), how often do you trust in God's promises? Why do you rate yourself this way?
2. Verse 12 says, "For the word of God is living and active." What does this mean to you in your life?
3. What do you think it means to, "hold fast our confession" (verse 14)? What might this look like in the life of someone who follows Jesus? Would you say that you experience this in your life regularly? Why or why not?
4. How do we balance the tension of confidently coming before God's throne, while still remaining reverent and maintaining a proper fear of God?
5. Jesus is our great High Priest, in that he is like us humans: he knows our weaknesses and experienced temptation, yet he is not like us: he did not sin, therefore teaches us how to overcome sin. This means Jesus is both approachable and powerful! What might this mean to you, knowing that Jesus is *your* great High Priest?

## PRAYER LIST