For the week of January 18, 2015

Pastor: Steve Zeisler

**The Shepherd Priest**

***Third week in the series ‘Immortal. Invisible.”***

**Hebrews 4:4-16**

Except in unusual circumstances, we do not see Jesus though he is always present. Two images are used in the New Testament to help us understand how he cares for his saints. Jesus is the Good Shepherd who is protector and companion of the sheep he knows by name; and, he is a High Priest who understands our weakness, making payment for our failures. To God be the glory.

**Discussion Questions:**

1. In Psalm 23, we read of the Shepherd’s presence with his beloved when the valley is dark and prospects are frightening. Can you relate an experience like this from your own life?
2. As our high priest, Jesus grants us boldness to approach a holy God while being honest about our sins. Have you struggled with wanting to ‘clean yourself up’ before drawing near to God? What have you learned in this regard?
3. Because he has been tempted in every way that we are tempted, our high priest is not put off by our weakness. He seeks us out even in dark places. Do you believe this?