**Hebrews: Chapter Five**

High priest--the message comes through over and over again in the letter of Hebrews, and in Chapter Five, a description of an earthly high priest opens the passage. The writers explain that the responsibility of the high priest is to offer prayer and sacrifice even for himself, as we all are sinners. The important point, however, is that these high priests were called by God and did not assume their positions under their own power. Likewise, Jesus, the Son of God, prayed for us and offered himself in obedience. As God commanded, the Lord lay down his life for our salvation. Also, the writers make note that Jesus was presented according to the order of Melchizedek, a high priest from the Old Testament. The chapter ends with concerns about the people’s readiness and a warning that closed ears must be opened if we are to be ready to do God's work.

1. The Appointment of a high priest (1-4)
2. Jesus, the Ultimate High Priest, Obedient to God (5-10)
3. Knowing less than we think we do (11-14)

**Questions for Study:**

1. The Melchizedek Narrative is one that we don't talk about or discuss in sermons very often. What do we know about this high priest, and how do you believe his story is relevant? What does Jesus have in common with this little known figure?
2. The analogy of milk and solid food is mentioned somewhere else in Scripture. What is the common thread or message of this metaphor from the two passages?
3. The writers say that the words that they speak may be difficult to understand. Why is that, and what is an example of this situation in today's church?

**Notes**:

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