**“Dangerous Prayers – Pt 1”**

**January 4/5, 2025**

**Speaker: Tom Hughes**

**Opening:** [15 mins] We suggest you begin with an opening prayer and then a brief “catch up” or “icebreaker” before moving into the *scripture reflection* and *application questions*.

**Icebreaker:** What are some of your goals/resolutions for 2025? Have you been able to begin working on these?

**Scripture Reflection:** [20 mins] **Read Psalm 139 (pay close attention to verse 23).** After allowing the group time to reflect on the passages, ask them to share what most stands out to them.

**Application Questions:** [40 mins](*These questions will help you and your group dig deeper into the weekend sermon. Feel free to edit or use only those which fit your allotted time.)*

1. How are you about receiving criticism or feedback (whether it is fair or unfair)?
	1. Is this an are where you might want to grow in 2025? How might you do that?

2. David invites the Lord to search his heart in this Psalm. Would that be a dangerous prayer for you?

 a. Is this a prayer that you might be afraid to pray? Why?

 b. Do you generally believe you have a good heart and your motives are pure?

 I. Read Jeremiah 17:9-10 - what does the Bible say about our heart condition?

3. David also prayed that the Lord might know his “anxious heart.” What is bringing you fear or anxiety as you begin the year?

 a. How might you surrender these fears to the Lord? Do you believe the Lord ‘knows” your anxious heart?

4. Tom reminded us that the best way to pray these prayers is from the foundation of knowing God’s love for us.

 a. How can you daily remind yourself of God’s love for you.

 b. Do you truly/deeply know He loves you?

 c. Re-read Psalm 139 if you have to. What verses speak about God’s love for you?

5. God not only searches us, but he leads us: What action is God leading you to do as your next step along the path of everlasting life?

**Closing & Prayer**: [15 mins]

* Receive prayer requests.