

## “I Am the Bread” - John 6:26-40

Ask - “What is your favorite kind of bread?”

Background - Jesus fed a gathering of 5,000 people with just 2 small fish and 5 barley loaves. Afterward, He withdrew from them to be alone on a mountain. His disciples set out to cross the Sea of Galilee, but a storm came up during the night and Jesus walked to them on the water. Ultimately they came to Capernaum and the crowd followed them there.

“The Work of God” - John 6:26-29

(v26-27) Why did Jesus say that these people had sought him? How did He explain their faulty or misplaced motivation for doing so?

(v28-29) What did the people want to know? What is the “work of God”? Discuss.

THE PEOPLE FOLLOWED JESUS BECAUSE HE HAD MET THEIR TEMPORARY, PHYSICAL NEED. HE EXPLAINED THAT THEIR GREATER NEED WAS SPIRITUAL AND WAS MET THROUGH BELIEF IN HIM.

“A Better Manna” - John 6:30-34

(v30-31) What did they ask Jesus to do and why? What past miracle did they refer to?

(v32-33) Who was responsible for sending the manna from heaven? How does the true bread of God differ from simple manna?

(v34) Upon hearing this comparison, which did the people want?

THE PEOPLE ASKED JESUS TO SHOW THEM A SIGN, LIKE THE MANNA FROM HEAVEN, BUT HE EXPLAINED THAT THE BREAD OF GOD WAS SUPERIOR TO THE EARTHLY MANNA.

“The Bread of Life” - John 6:35-40

(v35-36) How did Jesus describe Himself and how does it relate to the conversation? What benefits does He confer? Did the people, generally speaking, believe Him?

(v37) How are the concepts of election, predestination, and irresistible grace presented in this verse? Does this verse affirm Calvinism?

(v38-39) What did Jesus come down from heaven to do? What was God's will for Christ's coming?

(v40) How does this verse emphasize the doctrine of free will, human ability, and God's desire? Does this verse affirm Arminianism?

JESUS IDENTIFIED HIMSELF AS THE BREAD OF LIFE WHOM GOD HAD SENT TO SATISFY THE LONGING OF HIS PEOPLE.

Application - Jesus used the imagery of bread to teach that He could meet the eternal need of the hungry soul. Like the manna of old, Jesus had been sent by God from heaven to satisfy the greatest need of mankind - atonement for their sin and reconciliation to God. This was the will of the Father and the primary purpose for Jesus' coming. He is the Bread of Life. What stands out to you from today's lesson and why?