

Message title: What about you?

Big Idea: We follow Christ once & for all but one day at a time.

6:41 The Jews then complained about Him, because He said, “I am the bread which came down from heaven.” 42 And they said, “Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How is it then that He says, ‘I have come down from heaven’?”

1. Decide intelligently.

Emotions are real, but emotions don’t last.

43 Jesus therefore answered and said to them, “Do not murmur among yourselves. 44 No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day.

2. Trust confidently.

Believers that die are separated from their bodies, but not from the Lord.

45 It is written in the prophets, ‘And they shall all be taught by God.’ Therefore, everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to Me. 46 Not that anyone has seen the Father, except He who is from God; He has seen the Father. 47 Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me has everlasting life. 48 I am the bread of life. 49 Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness and are dead. 50 This is the bread which comes down from heaven, that one may eat of it and not die. 51 I am the living bread which came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread that I shall give is My flesh, which I shall give for the life of the world.”

Manna was great, but everyone who ate it is dead.

52 The Jews therefore quarreled among themselves, saying, “How can this Man give us *His* flesh to eat?” 53 Then Jesus said to them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no life in you. 54 Whoever eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day. 55 For My flesh is food indeed, and My blood is drink indeed. 56 He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood abides in Me, and I in him.

Food is often a spiritual symbol.

Jesus is saying, “Receive Me, Come to Me, internalize Me, take My life & I will raise you up.”

57 As the living Father sent Me, and I live because of the Father, so he who feeds on Me will live because of Me. 58 This is the bread which came down from heaven—not as your fathers ate the manna and are dead. He who eats this bread will live forever.” 59 These things He said in the synagogue as He taught in Capernaum.

60 Therefore many of His disciples, when they heard *this*, said, “This is a hard saying; who can understand it?”

3. Follow faithfully.

Mature faith perseveres and stays faithful.

61 When Jesus knew in Himself that His disciples complained about this, He said to them, “Does this offend you? 62 *What* then if you should see the Son of Man ascend where He was before? 63 It

is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit, and *they* are life.

Jesus' ultimate authority is, He is God's Son from heaven.

Ezekiel 37:2 Then He caused me to pass by them all around, and behold, *there were* very many in the open valley; and indeed *they were* very dry. 3 And He said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" So I answered, "O Lord GOD, You know." 4 Again He said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them, 'O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD!

It is God's word by God's Spirit giving life.

64 But there are some of you who do not believe." For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were who did not believe, and who would betray Him. **65** And He said, "Therefore I have said to you that no one can come to Me unless it has been granted to him by My Father."

Jesus knew & knows who believes & who is just part of the crowd.

66 From that *time* many of His disciples went back and walked with Him no more. **67** Then Jesus said to the twelve, "Do you also want to go away?" **68** But Simon Peter answered Him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. **69** Also we have come to believe and know that You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

70 Jesus answered them, "Did I not choose you, the twelve, and one of you is a devil?" **71** He spoke of Judas Iscariot, *the son* of Simon, for it was he who would betray Him, being one of the twelve.

Jesus knew who believed & who would betray Him, but Jesus didn't betray him.

General Timeline Guide: (Adjust as appropriate for your group's needs.)

5-10 minutes connecting personally with how everyone is doing.

45 minutes going over message with discussion questions and life applications.

5-10 minutes praying for each other

Discussion Questions

Look over these questions before your group time. Write down your answers or ideas for at least a few questions if not all. You may not get to every question during your time but speak up if you want to talk about one of them in particular. Always try to start with question #1.

1. What stood out to you and/or what do you think God might be speaking about from this message?
2. What should you do if you realize you don't have a child-like faith but a childish faith?
3. Why are facts and feelings both important in coming to Christ?
4. What did God tell Ezekiel to do in Ezekiel 37:4? How does that relate to what we should do for people who have no faith or have left their faith?
5. When faced with confusion or disappointment or hard things, where are people tempted to turn for life and meaning? What is wrong with those things? See John 6:49.
6. What can you learn from the situation with Judas?