

John 6

To whom shall we go?

I. Feeding the Five Thousand: Pushing Through Excuses

1 After these things...

- **After** the Jesus healed man at the pool
- **After** the Religious leader's threats/desire to kill Him
 1. Healed on Sabbath
 2. Made Himself equal with Father
- **After** Jesus sayings:
 1. Life in Himself
 2. Dead will rise at His voice
 3. He will Judge souls of all men
- **After** warning to the Religious/Self-Righteous
 1. Believe in all that witnesses of who I am
 2. Love the Truth or you **eventually will be deceived by a lie**

After these things Jesus now moves on to the common people...

1b... [Then...] Jesus went over the Sea of Galilee, which is *the Sea of Tiberias*. ²Then a great multitude followed Him, because they saw His signs which He performed on those who were diseased.

- Multitudes begin following Jesus...

...because they saw His signs; healing of the sick
- **Time line:** Mark:6
 1. 12 Apostles already chosen and sent out 2 x 2
 2. Preach Word, Heal, Cast out demons, call people renounce sin...

Mark 6:12 [Read] ...they went out and **preached that people should repent**. ¹³ And they **cast out many demons**, and anointed with oil many who were sick, and **healed** them...³⁰ Then the apostles gathered to Jesus and told Him all things, both what they had done and what they had taught. ³¹ And [Jesus] said to them, "Come aside by yourselves to a deserted place and rest a while." For there were many coming and going, and they did not even have time to eat. ³² So they departed to a **deserted place** in the boat by themselves.

- **Also, John the Baptist** [forerunner/friend/cousin] had recently been beheaded

Matthew 14:13 When Jesus heard it, He departed from there by boat to a deserted place by Himself [and Apostles]. But when the multitudes heard it, they followed Him on foot from the cities.

3 And Jesus went up on the mountain, and there He sat with His disciples.

- **Jesus:**

1. Goes up on the mountain
2. Sat with His disciples [learners]
3. Deals with loss of John [Jesus wept] meanwhile others rejoicing...

4 Now the **Passover**, a feast of the Jews, was near.

- **Passover:** One of Three Feasts Jewish men required to attend...

Exodus 23:14 "Three times you shall keep a feast to Me in the year..."

1. **Feast of Unleavened Bread** /Passover Early Spring
2. **Feast of Weeks:** Pentecost Late Spring
3. **Feast of Tabernacles** Fall
 - *Bonus Feast: Feast of Dedication [Hanukkah] Winter

- **Passover:** Beginning of spring; i.e. **Life in full bloom.**

John is dead. Jesus is solemn. Boys are confused having known John

5 Then Jesus lifted up His eyes, and seeing a great multitude coming toward Him

- **Sitting on Mountain:** Relaxing, chillin' with the boys
 1. Lifts up His head
 2. Sees the multitude coming up the hill
 3. Passover Pilgrims and others...

What would we do? Tired. Grieving. Finally some quiet and relief...

5b...[Jesus] said to Philip, "Where shall we buy bread, that these may eat?" 6 But this He said to test him, for He Himself knew what He would do.

- "These people must be hungry"...Heart of the Father. Compassion

"Philip...Where are we going to get enough food for all these?"

- **Philip:** Lit. gr. *Lover of horses*
- **Philips Test:**

1. **How big is your God?** Is He big enough to provide all these people?
2. **How big is your Heart?** Can you get out of yourself enough to care?

7 Philip answered Him, "Two hundred denarii worth of bread is not sufficient for them, that every one of them may have a little."

- We don't have near enough money to buy food for "these people"
- **Philip fails the test:**

1. We don't have enough money for them [6 month wages wouldn't be enough]

That is not faith, *it is reason*, — poor, dim, shallow reason, which forgets the Infinite, and begins to calculate its own limited and insufficient [resources]. [Spurgeon]

2. We certainly have enough for us
3. We are good...send them away

Matthew 14:14 [Read parallel] **...when Jesus went out** He saw a great multitude; and He was **moved with compassion for them**, and healed their sick.

- Jesus *went out* to the multitudes...did not wait till found Him
- Jesus observed the need...forgot about self
- Jesus was moved with compassion...went beyond self
- Jesus healed the sick
- Jesus spoke to them about the Kingdom of God [Luke 9]

Matthew 14:15 [Cont. Read]] When it was evening, His disciples [Including Philip] came to Him, saying, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is already late. **Send the multitudes away**, that they may go into the villages and buy themselves food." 16 But Jesus said to them, "**They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat.**"

Apostles/Us? Send those in need away...let them fend for themselves

- Tired
- Grieving
- Need is too big
- I've given all I can...I am so exhausted. Up

Galatians 6:9 ...let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart. [Also 2 Thes. 3:13]

- Serving other is not what wearies us...it's what keeps us going [NJC]

1 Corinthians 15:58 [Brothers and Sisters]... be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.

Don't lose heart...Your work for the Lord is not in Vain

- Love can take a little more. Love can give a little more [Skillset]
- When you've loved as much as you can...love a little more

God's Economy: Other people are the most important thing in this world.

- **Apostles say:** Send them away
- **Philip says:** We have no more to give
- **Jesus says:** They need to eat..

8 One of His disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to Him, 9 "There is a lad here who has five barley loaves and two small fish, but what are they among so many?"

- **Andrew:** Always bringing people and stuff to Jesus to fix...
- Andrew: Not have much faith but *his faith quality faith*
 1. 15,000 people and Andrew says...
 2. Kid over here with five loaves Wonder Bread and couple of fish

10 Then Jesus said, "**Make the people sit down.**" Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, in number about five thousand.

- Give Me his lunch
- **Make the people sit** down on the grass

Psalm 23:1 The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. 2 He **makes me to lie** down in green pastures...

What is the thing God wants most from you?

Luke 10:41 "Martha, Martha, you are worried and troubled about many things. 42 But one thing is needed..."

Genesis to Revelation

Q. What does God want most from us? A. To sit with Him

A right relationship with Jesus is not about trying harder...but getting closer

- **5000 men:** Different than feeding of 4000 [Gentile] in Matthew 15
- 5000 men plus woman and children; **15,000**

Andrew hands Jesus 5 Loaves of Bread and 2 Fish

11 And Jesus took the loaves, and when He had given thanks He distributed them to the disciples, and the disciples to those sitting down; and likewise of the fish, as much as they wanted.

- Took the small amount given by the boy

"Small things are not always contemptible. It all depends on the hands in which they are."
 "[Taylor]

- **Thanked the Father for provision of food/taste buds**

I know some that fall to their meals, like so many swine, and have not as much grace as chickens, that are sure to lift their heads whenever they take a drink, as if to bless God for every drop they receive. [Spurgeon]

- Jesus blesses God for the bread/fish and the boy?
- Multiplies boys lunch, gives back to disciples who feed those in need

Jesus takes the little we have and multiplies it that we might give it away... and do it again

Luke 6:38 Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom"

- Jesus is preparing the canvas to *paint a picture for what follows*
- Using a physical moment to permanently *imprint spiritual concept on minds*

11 And Jesus took the loaves, and when He had given thanks He distributed them to the disciples, and the disciples to those sitting down; and likewise of the fish, **as much as they wanted.**

**After Jesus touched it became the stuff of God
Point: We can have as much of God as we want!**

[They took] "As much as they would." Note those words, for they are the rule at Christ's feasts. Of earthly things, he gives us as much as we need; and of **heavenly things, as much as we would!** "Open [your] mouth wide, and I will fill it." "According to your faith be it unto you." ...That is Christ's measure for those who gather at his table; it is only your own will that limits the amount of grace that you may have. [Spurgeon]

- Jesus providing eats for us...

1. **After His victory** over death Jesus prepared breakfast on the beach

John 21:9 [After crucifixion the boys fishing...] saw a fire of coals [on the beach], and fish laid on it, and bread. 10 Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish which you have just caught." [Peter drags his net ashore] 12 Jesus said to them, **"Come and eat breakfast."**

2. After our war against sin/death Jesus will prepare us a **victory feast...**

Isaiah 25:6 And in this mountain **The Lord of hosts will make for all people A feast** of choice pieces, A feast of wines on the lees, Of fat things full of marrow, Of well-refined wines on the lees. 7 And He will destroy on this mountain The surface of the covering cast over all people, And the **veil that is spread over all nations.** 8 He will swallow up death forever, And the Lord God will wipe away tears from all faces; The rebuke of His people He will take away from all the earth; For the Lord has spoken. 9 And it will be said in that day: "Behold, this is our God; We have waited for Him, and He will save us. This is the Lord; We have waited for Him; **We will be glad and rejoice in His salvation."**

- Jesus loves interacting with us over a good meal

**After Jesus touched the kid's lunch it became the stuff of God
We can have as much of God as we want!**

- 15,000 people ate as Jesus **taught and healed them...**

Luke 9:11 [Parallel] ... [Jesus] received them and **spoke to them about the kingdom of God, and healed those who had need of healing.**

12 So when they were filled, [Jesus] said to His disciples, "Gather up the fragments that remain, so that nothing is lost." 13 Therefore they gathered them up, and filled **twelve baskets with the fragments of the five barley loaves** which were left over by those who had eaten.

- Disciples gave kid back his sandwich...had more left over than when they started

14 Then those men, when they had seen the sign that Jesus did, said, **"This is truly the Prophet who is to come into the world."**

- Came to see a sign/Saw a sign/Still didn't get it

John 6:2 Then a great multitude followed Him, *because they saw His signs* which He performed...

"This is truly the Prophet who is to come into the world."

... faith that comes by the way of the stomach is not worth much. If people are converted by loaves and fishes, bigger loaves and bigger fishes will make them go the other way; converts made thus are of small worth. [Spurgeon]

- More teaching is needed. **This is the Messiah; i.e. God with us!**

II. Jesus Walks on the Sea

15 **Therefore** when Jesus perceived that they were about to come and take Him by force to make Him king...

- **Therefore...**

1. Because the people were... *seeking more signs*
2. Because they were about to... *carry Him away on shoulders*
3. Because their intent was to... *make Him an earthly king*

John 18:36 [To Pilate] "My kingdom is not of this world..."

- **Because of this...**

15b...He departed again to the mountain by Himself alone.

- Departed through the crowd supernaturally...

Luke 4:29b... [People tried to...] throw Him down over the cliff. 30 Then passing through the midst of them, He went His way.

1. Not yet His time to be crucified
2. **Got alone with His Father...**

16 Now when evening came, His disciples went down to the sea, 17 got into the boat, and went over the sea toward **Capernaum**. And it was already dark, and **Jesus had not come to them.**

- **Evening on the Mountain**

1. Jesus stays on Mountain
2. Disciple go down to beach
3. Get in boat head to Capernaum [home base]

Matthew 14:22 [Parallel] Immediately [after cleaning up scraps] Jesus made His disciples get into the boat and go before Him to **the other side**, while He sent the multitudes away. 23 And when He had sent the multitudes away, He went up on the mountain by Himself to pray. Now when evening came, He was alone there.

- **More info**

1. Jesus made disciples go ahead to Capernaum
2. On the mountain alone to be with Father
3. Boys take off in the boat...

18 Then the sea arose because a great wind was blowing. 19 So when they had rowed about **three or four miles**, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and drawing near the boat; and they were afraid.

- Storm?

1. Great wind; Lit. Mega wind; i.e. very strong and very loud
2. Rowed out 3-4 miles

- 3. See Jesus walking on the sea**

Mark 6:47 [Parallel] Now when evening came, the boat was in the middle of the sea; and [Jesus] was alone on the land. 48 Then He saw them straining at rowing, for the wind was against them. Now about the fourth watch of the night He came to them, walking on the sea, **and would have passed them by.**

- Middle of sea
- Straining against the wind
- 3 AM

See Jesus walking on waves. Wind blowing his hair. **Would have passed by them...**

20 But He said to them, **"It is I; do not be afraid."** 21 Then they **willingly received Him** into the boat...

- What happened *before* they received Him into the boat?
- John leaves it out...Matthew recalls...

Matthew 14:26 [Read] And when the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, **"It is a ghost!"** And they cried out for fear. 27 But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Be of good cheer! It is I; do not be afraid." 28 And Peter answered Him and said, "Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You on the water." 29 So He said, "Come." And when Peter had come down out of the boat, he walked on the water to go to Jesus. 30 But when he saw that the wind was boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink he cried out, saying, "Lord, save me!" 31 And immediately Jesus stretched out His hand and caught him, and said to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" 32 And

when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. 33 Then those who were in the boat came and worshiped Him, saying, "Truly You are the Son of God."

21b...and immediately the boat was at the land where they were going.

- Supernaturally arrive at destination

**If Jesus says to go across you will make it across
Keep our eyes on Jesus when the Mega storm comes!**

SUMMARY Jesus Walks on the Sea

III. Bread from Heaven

22 On the **following day**, when the people who were standing on the other side of the sea saw that there was no other boat there, *except that one which His disciples had entered*, and that Jesus had not entered [that] boat with His disciples, but His disciples had gone away alone—

- **People of Capernaum waiting on beach scratching their heads...**
 1. Saw disciples enter boat without Jesus
 2. Went around to Capernaum by land to wait
 3. Didn't realize Jesus was in the boat and had entered on route

23 ...however, **other boats** came from Tiberias, near the place where they ate bread after the Lord had given thanks— 24 when the people therefore saw that Jesus was not there, nor His disciples, *they also got into boats and came to Capernaum, seeking Jesus.*

- Other People leave from where feeding took place
- Follow in boats...seeking Jesus
 1. Go to base of mountain to beach where disciples left
 2. Jesus and disciples already on other side
 3. Get into boats head for Capernaum

Seeking Jesus...for what?

- **Why do people seek Jesus today?**
 1. Miracles
 2. Healing
 3. Wealth
 4. Excitement

25 And when they found Him on the other side of the sea, they said to Him, "**Rabbi, when did You come here?**"

- **Rabbi:** Teacher when did you get here?
- *Teacher* we need lunch...

26 Jesus answered them and said, "Most assuredly, I say to you, you seek Me, **not because you saw the signs, but because you ate of the loaves and were filled.**"

- Signs pointed to Me as Savior of Souls: **I've Come to seek and save the lost!**
- You follow Me to feed your bellies; to get physical needs met...

27 Do not labor for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to everlasting life, which the Son of Man will give you, because God the Father has set His seal on Him."

Invitation to Abundant Life

Isaiah 55:2 "Ho! [Listen Up!] Everyone who thirsts, Come to the waters; And you who have no money, Come, buy and eat. Yes, come, buy wine and milk Without money and without price. 2 Why do you spend money for what is not bread, And your wages for what does not satisfy? Listen carefully to Me, and eat what is good, And let your soul delight itself in abundance. 3 Incline your ear, and come to Me. Hear, and your soul shall live..."

- Don't spend every second making money for food that rots
- Labor for the food that leads to Everlasting Life

You are not to labor for that which you cannot get without labor, and you are to labor for that which you cannot get by labor. [Spurgeon]

Hebrews 4:11 Let us therefore be diligent [strive] to enter that rest. [Rest found in Jesus]

- **We must Strive/Work to get out of ourselves:** Lose your life to find His
- **God has set His seal on me...**

A seal was a mark of ownership and a guarantee of the contents. They should have confidence in Jesus because God the Father has "guaranteed" Him. [Guzik]

I am willing and able to give you Eternal Life...
Because God the Father has "Set His seal on Me" That's why I came.

28 Then they said to [Jesus], "What shall we do, that we may work the works of God?"

- What is the work of God? What does God require of us? **Good question!**

29 Jesus answered and said to them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He sent."

- Work of God required for Eternal Life is *to believe in the One God sent. Jesus Christ*

1. **Who He is** God and Savior
2. **What He did** Died for our sins and rose again

30 Therefore they said to Him, "What sign *will You* perform then, that we may see it and believe You? **What work will You do?** 31 Our fathers ate the manna in the desert; as it is written, '**He gave them bread** from heaven to eat.'"

Moses gave us bread from Heaven...what will You do? Can you top Moses?

Hebrews 3:3 [Jesus...] has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses, inasmuch as He who built the house has more honor than the house.

**About your Hero...Moses?
I made Moses/Moses bows to Me**

32 Then Jesus said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, Moses did not give you the bread from heaven

- I made Moses...by the way...
 - Moses did not give you bread from Heaven
1. My Father did then!
 2. And He is now!

32b... but My Father gives you the **true bread from heaven.** 33 For the bread of God is He who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world."

- My Father has sent "**true bread**"; i.e. True Sustenance
- The Man sent from Heaven to earth by God...

" He gives life to the world."

34 Then they said to Him, "**Lord, give us this bread always.**"

- **Getting excited...more bread!**

When we are hungry, we feel as though food will answer all our problems. It's the same way with almost all other practical difficulties we find ourselves in. Just as Jesus tried to lift their understanding above their material, physical needs, so we need to have our minds lifted. [Guzik]

35 And Jesus said to them, "**I am the bread of life.** He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst.

I AM the Bread of Life

- **First of Seven "I AM" statements in Gospel of John**

1. **Bread of Life**
2. Light of the World
3. Door/Gate
4. Good Shepherd
5. Resurrection/Life
6. Way, Truth, and Life
7. Vine

- **I AM the Bread of Life**

1. Never Hunger again
 2. Never Thirst again [Living Water]
- In ME you will find everything your soul hungers for
 - In Me you will find everything your soul thirsts for...

We stop looking for nourishment in people/ places/things that can't satisfy
Dive into the infinite/bottomless supply of Living Water found in Jesus

As much God as we want. As much God as we are willing to give up ourselves

- **Offer must be accepted...**

36 But I said to you that **you have seen Me** and yet do not believe.

- **I have shown you signs:**

1. Healing
 2. Deliverance
 3. Feeding of thousands pointing to Me as Savior
 4. **Instead...**
- You ask me to do tricks to entertain you...provide food to feed your flesh

Missed the Point: I can give you real Life. Abundant Life. No guilt. No shame
You follow Me as Santa Clause...not as Savior of your lost soul

- I will save all who come to me in humility in need of Life

37 All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out.

- Father is calling/drawing people out of world and to Jesus His Son

One day not giving a thought about God
Next day realizing our desperate need to be saved

- **All who come to Me as Savior will are welcome...**

1. Adulterer
2. Sexually Immoral
3. Murderer
4. Father harsh with children
5. Child rebellious to parents
6. Those with unthinkable/unimaginable darkness of their past
7. No matter who you are or what you've done Jesus is willing and able to save

Jesus can change you!

**Are you ready for Life? Are you ready to repent...become brand new?
No guilt. No shame. Clean. Forgiven. New Start. Born-again.**

- I don't need a savior!

John 6:31 Jesus answered and said to [those who thought they were fine...], "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. 32 I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance."

First step to healing? Admit you are sick...sick with sin and of self

- I will not cast anyone away who comes to Me as Savior
- **That's why I came to earth...not to judge but to save**

1 Timothy 1:15 This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief.

38 For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me.

- **Not My will but the Fathers will be done...**

1. Born to die
2. Live a perfect selfless life
3. Suffer on Cross
4. **Resurrect:** Hope of Eternal Life for those who believe

39 This is the will of the Father who sent Me, that of all He has given Me I should lose nothing, but should **raise it up** at the last day.

- **Will of God:** To be with us

1. Call a people out of this perverse world to Himself
2. Draw a collection of sinners to Jesus for Salvation
3. Save and not lose those that believe

I will **raise it up** at the last day.
God's People *Corporately*

40 And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in Him may have everlasting life; and I will **raise him up** at the last day."

- Will of God: To be with **us**
- **Will of God:** To be **with you**
 1. **Every unique person who Sees:** Gaze of the soul
 2. **Every unique person who Believes:** Affirmation of the heart

May have everlasting Life
I will **raise him up** at the last day

God's Children *Individually*

Jesus knows you. Jesus loves you. Jesus wants to be with you

John 6:32 Then Jesus said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, Moses did not give you the bread from heaven, but My Father gives you the true bread from heaven. 33 For the bread of God is He who comes down from heaven and **gives life to the world.**"

True / False? **Only Jesus gives Life to the World!**

IV. Bread of Life

Topic of discussion: Eternal Life

- **Venue:** Jesus teaching in Synagogue v59

41 The Jews then complained about [Jesus], 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'?"

- **Jews complained about Jesus to one another because...**
 1. He says He came from Heaven [6x in John 6]
 2. We know He didn't...His Father is Joseph

Jesus Father *was not* Joseph but God
We believe in the Virgin Birth of Jesus Christ

Matthew 1:18 [Read]...**before** [Joseph and Mary] came together, [Mary] was found with child **of the Holy Spirit...**22 So all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet [Isaiah 7:14], saying: 23 "Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel," which is translated, "**God**

with us.”

- God the Father sent His Holy Spirit to a virgin named Mary
- Mary gave birth to the Son of God named him Jesus
 1. Always existed as God the Son
 2. Now made manifest in human flesh

Philippians 2 [Jesus]... [was] in the form of God... [now] found in **appearance as a man**

- **Jesus is God made flesh...**

1 Timothy 3:16 ...without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: **God was manifested in the flesh**, Justified in the Spirit, Seen by angels, Preached among the Gentiles, Believed on in the world, Received up in glory.

- Joseph was not Jesus father.

God the Father sent His Holy Spirit to impregnate the a virgin named Mary
... To manifest [bring forth] in the flesh the Son of God

- **Named Jesus:** Lit. “God with us”
 1. Man from Heaven
 2. Bread from Heaven

He didn’t come down from Heaven...Ridiculous. We know His father

- **They did *not* know His Father:** Jesus desire is that they do...

43 Jesus therefore answered and said to them, “**Do not murmur** among yourselves.

- **Murmur:** gon-gü'-zō: Lit. to grumble in a low tone like cooing of doves

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.

- Before coming to Jesus we are first...
 1. Drawn by the Father...
 2. Pursued by Spirit
 3. Saved by Jesus
- Those drawn by the Father **Jesus gives Eternal Life**

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. [Quoted from Isaiah 54:13]

Everyone who hears and is taught by My Father comes to Me
How does anyone hear and learn from the Father?

- **The Father wrote a book:** 66 Books written by 40 authors led by HS over thousands years/3 continents...integrated message system [Chuck Missler]

How we hear/learn from God? By reading what Father wrote

- By reading/believing the *Word of God*
- All 66 Books teach us of Jesus and His plan

Paraphrase: If you believe [both hear/learn] God's Word you will come to Me

- **Our Creator desires to be our Teacher;** what is right/wrong...good/evil
 1. OT Scripture Prophets taught
 2. Jesus 1st coming Jesus taught
 3. NT Scripture Apostles taught

Jesus at His 2nd coming the world will head to Jerusalem to hear God teach

Isaiah 2:2 Now it shall come to pass in the latter days That the mountain of the Lord's house Shall be established on the top of the mountains, And shall be exalted above the hills; And **all nations shall flow to it.** 3 Many people shall come and say, "Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, To the house of the God of Jacob; **He will teach us His ways,** And we shall walk in His paths." For out of Zion shall go forth the law, And the **word of the Lord from Jerusalem.**

- God desires to teach those who want to learn
- Being teachable is great attribute...Religious leaders were not teachable

To the Religious Leaders: If you have heard/learned from God you will come to Me

"This was as much as to say, 'The Father has *never taught you.* You have *learned nothing* from Him, or you would come to Me..." [Spurgeon]

- Everyone who hears/learns 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.

No One has seen the Father in His fullness... **No One accept Me**

47 Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me has everlasting life.

- Jesus continues drives home the point...

Only I can give Life to this dying world but you must believe my Words!

- **Believing in Jesus means believing His Word:**

1. No matter **how difficult**
 2. No matter **how counterintuitive**
 3. No matter **how contrary** to what the world teaches...
 - It's all about you **vs.** All about Jesus
 - It's better to get than give **vs.** Better to give than receive
 - You will find life within yourself **vs.** Lose your life for God/find real life
- **NOTE:** v47 He who believes in Jesus **HAS Eternal Life**; i.e. Present tense
 - **Jesus continues teaching in the synagogue...**

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."**

**I am the Bread of Life...The Bread of Life is my flesh
I give my flesh for the "life of the world!"**

- **Teaching has been "easy to digest" till now:**
 1. Jesus separation/*weeding-out* process now in full-force
 2. Sayings become more intense/more personal/more specific

52 The Jews therefore **quarreled** among themselves, saying, "How can this Man give us His flesh to eat?"

- Heating up in Synagogue: Jews go from complaining to **quarreling**
- **Quarreled:** Lit. armed combatants, those who engage in a hand to hand struggle

What is He talking about eating His flesh? He's gone too far...

- **Just starting...**

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.

**No matter how rich/poor, what country they live in or how sincere they are...
Unless an individual eats My flesh/Drink My blood they are Walking Dead**

No Life: Merely existing but not living...at all

- **V 54** Those who eat My flesh/drink My blood to Eternal Life
- **V 40** Those who see Jesus/believe in Him have Everlasting Life [Gaze of the soul: Tozer]

56 He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood **abides in Me**, and I in him.

- **Abiding in Christ?** Vine supply's the stuff required to bear fruit [sign of life]

John 15:5 "I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing."

Is what we are feeding on life-giving or life-stealing?

"Every man feeds on something or other. You see, one man getting his Sunday newspaper; how he will feed on that! Another goes to frivolous amusements, and he feeds on them. Another man feeds upon his business, and [another] upon the thought of his many cares! But all that is poor food... If you [were born-again], you would know the deep necessity ... of feeding upon Christ." [Spurgeon]

Ingesting Flesh and Blood of the Son of Man

- *Not* partaking of **First Adam** and His sin leading to physical/spiritual death
- Partaking of **Last Adam** and His perfection leading to Eternal Life with Him

Osmosis through Digestion...

- Allowing Jesus to penetrate/infiltrate/affect our entire being

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.

- **Living Father:** The Living God in contrast to dead idols
 1. Jesus lives because He is One with the Father
 2. We live as we become One with Jesus
- Privilege of Fellowship/Oneness with the Father and Son

John 14:23 [Jesus] "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and **We will come to him and make Our home with him.**"

- Fellowship/Oneness with Father, Son, Fellow believers...equals fullness of Joy

1 John 1:3b... [I am declaring Jesus] ...that you also may have fellowship with **us**; and truly our fellowship is with the **Father** and with His **Son** Jesus Christ. 4 And these things we write to you that your joy may be full.

Abundant Life is being one with each other and God
Being knit together with Deity

John 17:11b...Holy Father, keep through Your name those whom You have given Me, that they **may be one as We are**...22 the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they

may be **one just as We are one**

- Completely Identified with Jesus as He is identified with the Father.
- **Jesus:** Our sustenance. Our life. Our substance. Our being.

We must move from simply acknowledging Jesus simply another religious leader and move to making Him our Life [NJC]

- **Jesus is the Bread of Life**

1. Seeing a loaf of bread on a plate will not satisfy our hunger.
2. Knowing the ingredients in the bread will not satisfy our hunger.
3. Taking pictures of the bread will not satisfy our hunger.
4. Telling other people about the bread will not satisfy our hunger
5. Selling the bread will not satisfy our hunger.
6. Playing catch with the bread will not satisfy our hunger.
7. Nothing will satisfy our hunger/ bring us life except actually eating the bread.
8. **He who eats this bread will live forever.** [Guzik]

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.

SUMMARY Bread of Life: Requirement for Heaven: Eat Jesus flesh/Drink Jesus blood

V. Hard Teaching: Many Disciples Turn Away

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

- **After church is over His disciples join with the crowd**

1. That was tough to listen to!
2. **Hard saying:** Not hard to understand but hard to accept

61 When Jesus knew in Himself that His disciples complained about this, **He said to them, “Does this offend you?”**

- **Knew their thoughts:** Now disciples complaining along with other Jews

“Does this offend you?”

- **Lit.** *Does what I just said stumble you?*

Let our Master teach us what he pleases, nothing ought to offend a disciple of Christ. It is ours to sit at his feet, and receive all his words *without complaining*. But if we do not believe what he tells us upon some elementary points, what should we do if he were to reveal something more to us, and lead us into the higher and deeper doctrines of his Word?

[Spurgeon]

- **Is Jesus preaching people away?**

May a preacher sometimes be offensive in his preaching? **He must be.** He must sometimes feel that such a truth will only move men's wrath if he preach it. Nevertheless, we are not to put truth to the verdict of a jury; neither is truth to be submitted to what is called the "inner consciousness" of a set of sinners whose consciousness is all defiled. [Spurgeon]

**Does it offend you that I said you must eat My flesh and drink My blood?
...That I said you are either "All in all the way" ...or you're not in at all?**

- Jesus doesn't "walk-back" what He said but leans in...

62 What then if you should see the Son of Man ascend where He was before?

Isn't it better to be told the truth and be saved **now?**
...than to be entertained and judged **later?** [NJC]

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.

- **Spirit gives life...flesh profits nothing**

**Empty Words that feed the flesh profit nothing
Spirit filled Words are Life to the hearer**

- Every Word that I speak is Spirit
- Every Word that I speak is Life...but only to those who receive them

Life-changing power of the Word of God leading to Transformed Lives

Romans 1:16 ...I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes...

- **To his disciples; i.e. learners:** Words I speak are Spirit and 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.**

- **Judas was among them...**

1. Casting out demons
2. Healing the sick
3. Feeding the thousands
4. Preaching the Gospel
5. Stealing the money

6. Possessed by Satan
7. Lead mob to Jesus
8. Kill himself after Satan was finished

- Jesus knew who would betray Him...

65 And [Jesus] said, "Therefore I have said to you that no one can come to Me unless it has been granted to him by My Father."

- Did Judas have no choice but to betray Jesus?
 1. Had it ***not been granted by the Father*** for Judas to be saved?
 2. Did God prevent Judas from being saved? Doom him to damnation?

Q. Was Judas predestined to betray Jesus or did Judas have free-will to choose

A. Yes.

Judas was predestined: [I.e. God foreknew what Judas would do and used that foreknowledge in His redemptive plan; Betrayal/Death/Resurrection of Jesus.

V 64 ...Jesus knew from the beginning who they were who did not believe, and who would betray Him. [God knows thus God acts accordingly]

Judas had free-will: Judas was not forced/coerced to betray Jesus. Judas had free-choice but chose sin. God knew Judas would betray Jesus and used Judas choice to bring about God's desired result...**Salvation through the cross of Christ**

- **Hard teachings...**

1. I came from Heaven
2. You have no life unless you eat My flesh/drink My blood

66 From that time many of His disciples went back and walked with Him no more.

- **John 6:66:** Crowd disperses
- From this time: Lit. *Because of what He just said...*
 1. Many followers walked away
 2. Many [disciples] learners went back: Old lives

[Jesus]... used his own word as the winnowing fan. And I believe, brothers and sisters, that wherever Christ is faithfully preached, preaching is the best form of church discipline. Somehow or other, carnal minds get weary of it, and they go away, and those that have not a longing and a love for the truth...so they walk no more with him.

- Basically left with only the 12

67 Then Jesus said to the twelve, "**Do you also want to go away?**"

What a penetrating question! Our Lord's words often hit home for us when He speaks in

the simplest way. In spite of the fact that we know who Jesus is, He asks, "Do you also want to go away?" We must continually maintain an adventurous attitude toward Him, despite any potential personal risk. "From that time many of His disciples went back and walked with Him no more" They turned back from walking with Jesus; not into sin, but away from Him. Many people today are pouring their lives out and working for Jesus Christ, but are not really walking with Him. One thing God constantly requires of us is a **oneness with Jesus Christ**. After being set apart through sanctification, we should discipline our lives spiritually to maintain this intimate oneness. When God gives you a clear determination of His will for you, all your striving to maintain that relationship by some particular method is completely unnecessary. **All that is required is to live a natural life of absolute dependence on Jesus Christ**. Never try to live your life with God in any other way than His way. And His way means absolute devotion to Him. Showing no concern for the uncertainties that lie ahead is the secret of walking with Jesus. [Oswald Chambers]

Hard things we don't tell people when we are witnessing If you choose to follow Jesus...

1. Everything in your life may not be fixed...but you will be saved
2. You are giving up hopes and dreams for His...His desires will become yours
3. You are entering a war. We are called to "make war"
4. Know that following Jesus is mutually exclusive to all other religions
5. You have no rights. You are not entitled to anything. All things are a gift.
6. You are required to forgive. Those who don't forgive will not be forgiven
7. Sinful attitudes toward others will not be tolerated. How can you say you love
8. Un-repentant sin is not acceptable and will be eradicated
9. Your agenda is meaningless. It is now God's agenda. Bought price. Call Lord?
10. You are to humble yourself before God and others

- **Do you also want to go away? Does this offend you? How about the cross?**

68 But Simon Peter answered Him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.

- To **WHOM** shall we go...notice peter speaks of a Person not a religion/system

You alone have the Words of Eternal Life. No one else!

- To whom shall **WE go**: Notice Peter includes his cohorts
- Adorable Peter continues...

69 Also we have come to believe and know that You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

- **We know You as Messiah**: Savior of our Souls

We ALL know you as Savior of our souls? Peter excited about the group...

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.

- I did choose the 12 of you...each for a purpose
 1. **11** of you for the purpose of following Me
 2. **1** of you [diabolos/accuser/pawn of devil] for purpose of betraying Me

Osmosis though Ingestion: Allowing Jesus to penetrate/infiltrate/affect our entire being