

Names of God

Bread of Life

TEXT: John 6:22-70

Untraditional message.

Jesus is the Bread of Life.

Jesus had just fed more than five thousand people with five loaves and two small fish (John 6:1–14**).**

When the people went looking for Him the next day, they were following their stomachs more than their hearts.

Jesus saw beyond their desire for another free meal.

He knew that they weren't interested in following Him for who He was, but for what He could do (v. 26).

Seeing Jesus merely as a source of earthly blessings is never a good reason to follow Him.

That's because while we can buy a loaf of bread at the store, only Jesus can meet our deepest need—our spiritual need for a Savior, for purpose, for daily guidance, for love.

Jesus said, “I am the bread of life” (v. 35).

The hunger and thirst He satisfies goes much deeper than the physical hunger that can be satisfied by bread and fish.

He came to give us life and life more abundantly.

He came to see and save that which was lost.

He didn't leave us lost, He came to save us and give us purpose.

He is the greatest gift. Some many reject the gift or receive the gift and put it in closet.

Not everyone in your life was sent by God.

Some people you're helping are actually blocking your blessings.

1. The Unrepentant

Stop trying to help someone who refuses to change.

If they won't turn from their sin, your support doesn't help them, it hardens them.

It's like building a ladder for someone who has no intention of climbing.

They're not looking for freedom they're looking for comfort in the pit.

Proverbs 26:11 says, “as a dog returns to its vomit so a fool repeats his foolishness.”

That's not harsh. It's real. God wants you to recognize patterns not just personalities.

Many people have had truth, grace and chances to grow but still choose rebellion.

God's not asking you to keep stepping in. He might be asking you to step back.

Sometimes pain is the only thing to get someone's attention and your constant rescue is blocking their wake up call.

Don't confuse being their lifeline with blocking their lesson.

2. The Manipulative

Some people don't want help they want control.

If you're not careful their crisis becomes your captivity.

These are the ones who twist your kindness into obligation.

They guilt trip you, gaslight you, make you feel like saying no is unChristian. Manipulation is not ministry.

Jesus never allowed Himself to be controlled by people's emotions or expectations.

In fact in Luke 4, when the crowd tried to keep Him from leaving because they were mad He walked away because His assignment wasn't based on pressure it was based on purpose.

Just because someone is loud about their needs doesn't mean you're called to meet them.

If helping them cost you your peace your purpose or your identity it's not help it's a trap.

3. The Divisive

God won't bless what divides His people.

Helping someone who sow division is helping the enemy.

These are the gossipers, the drama magnets, the ones who smile in church but tear others down in secret.

Titus 3:10 says, “warn a divisive person once, then warn them a second time. After that have nothing to do with them.”

That's not cold. That's commanded.

When you attempt to help someone who stirs up strife you're not just caught in the middle, you become part of the mess and eventually their conflict becomes your consequence.

Protect your peace. Protect your calling.

God isn't asking you to fix what He's trying to separate.

4. The Drainer

Some people don't want to grow.

They just want to take.

Your constant helping is making you spiritually dry.

You pray for them, listen to them, carry their weight but nothing ever changes.

Why?

They're not looking for transformation. They're looking for a host, someone to do it for them.

Even Jesus had boundaries.

He ministered to the multitude but He recharged alone

Luke 5:16 says, "Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed."

If the Son of God needed distance so do you.

It's not selfish to protect you.

It's spiritual warfare because it drained spirit can't discern clearly and burnout is one of the enemy's favorite traps. Helping isn't holy when it empties you and enable them

5. The God Replacers.

If someone looks to you instead of God, stop helping.

You're not their Savior.

It starts slowly.

They ask for prayer, advice or support.

However, overtime they rely more on you than on God.

The truth is, every time you rush to fix it, you're standing in a place only God belongs.

In Act 14 when people try to worship Paul and Barnabas as gods, they tore their clothes and shouted, "We're just humans like you."

They knew the danger of letting people elevate them instead of the One who sent them.

You can guide, you can pray but you cannot be someone source.

That role is sacred.

If they keep turning to you instead of turning to God, your help has become a hindrance.

6. The Willfully Disobedient

If they know what God said and still choose rebellion, don't partner with it.

These people are the ones who say, “yeah I know what the Bible says, but they don't need a lifeline.

They need a wake up call.

2 Thessalonians 3:14 says, “take note of those who do not obey our instruction. Do not associate with them so they may feel ashamed.”

That's not rejection.

That's redirection through consequence.

If someone is actively walking against God's word and you keep supporting them, you're not helping them walk toward freedom, you're just making the road to destruction feel comfortable.

Love them, yes, but don't walk with them if they're walking away from God.

7. The Assignment Blocker

Some people aren't part of your calling. They are a distraction from it.

They might not be toxic, they might not be rebellious, but they're not aligned.

If you're not careful, your compassion will keep you in a place God told you to leave.

In Genesis 12 God told Abram, “leave your country, your people, and your father's household”, but Abram brought Lot with him and it wasn't until Lot left that God gave him the full vision for his future.

Sometimes the wrong people aren't evil, they're just extra weight.

Don't confuse loyalty with obedience.

When God says go you don't need everyone's permission, just His direction.

some of the people you're trying to help God is trying to remove.

The question isn't "are they worth saving?"

The question is are, "you willing to obey even if it looks like walking away."

You walking away maybe what it takes for them to truly depend upon the Savior.

Helping them might feel holy but disobedience, even with good intentions, is still disobedience.¹

Which side of the situation are you on?

No matter where you are in this season, "RUN TO JESUS."

He is the Author and Finisher of our faith!!!!

Yahweh Nissi

"The Lord My Banner"

1. When God is your banner, He will sustain you.

You might feel like you're not going to make it, but God promises to provide you with what you need.

It may not be what you want, but it will be what you need to be obedient to Him.

2. When God is your banner, His purpose will prevail.

If your circumstance is causing you to lose faith, "fix your eyes on Jesus" (Heb. 12:2) and His purpose, and you will be able to stand strong.

3. When God is your banner, He is always with you.

God promises to walk with you through every situation. You are never alone.

¹ taken and paraphrased from video: posted <https://youtu.be/L2KrZxO9vt0>

If you're in a battle right now, remember that Jesus is your banner who brings hope and purpose.

Ro'eh Tzon

“Shepherd of a flock”

the Hebrew word we translate as "shepherd" is roch tzon (pronounced "ro-ch tone")

What is a "good shepherd"?

Jesus once described himself as a "good shepherd" who would lay down his life to protect his sheep—something I always understood in theory but missed the significance of because of where I grew up.

See, in most western countries, sheep are kept safe inside fenced-off fields with food and water—so they don't really need a shepherd.

But even today in Israel, there are very few fences, so sheep often wander through the desert where they can be attacked by any number of predators.

So, when Jesus says He is "the good shepherd," we should be reminded that no matter what situation we face, He will be with us, holding us close to His heart and lovingly caring for us.

Are you going through a rough season right now?

If so, have confidence that Jesus is your good companion through it all. And He wants you to rely on Him for everything you need to get through this season.

Don't give up hope!

"I am the good shepherd; I know my own sheep, and they know me."

- John 10:14

Yahweh Tsidkenu

God, My Righteousness

Proverbs 15:9-10

"The path of the righteous is like the light of dawn, which shines brighter and brighter until full day" - Proverbs 4:18

The Hebrew word we translate as righteousness is pronounced "Yah-weh Tsid-kay-new"), which means to help someone in need.

Tsedagah is about showing concern for the poor through charity and generosity.

It's about serving the least, the last, and the lost.

This is how we have a life that continues to shine brighter like the dawn—by serving people in need around us.

God is your "shield?

If you're feeling shaken, fearful, or anxious today, then pray you would find strength, hope, and encouragement in knowing that God is your shield.

"But you, LORD, are a shield around me, my glory, the One who lifts my head high." - Psalm 3:3

One of God's names in the Bible is Migdal-Oz (pronounced "mig-dawl ohze"), which means "Strong Tower" or "Fortress."

The idea is that God is the foundation of a believer's life.

"The LORD is my rock, my fortress, and my savior; my God is my rock, i whom I find protection" - Psalm 18:2.

To David, this mountain represented God because it was a physical place where he found refuge and protection in a time of desperate spiritual and emotional need.

How many people need a tangible reminder that God is their strong tower, their refuge, and their safe place today.

The LORD is my rock, my fortress, and my savior; my God is my rock, in whom I find protection. He is my shield, the power that saves me, and my place of safety. - Psalm 18:2

**One of Jesus in Hebrew is Emmanuel, which literally means "I AM with you always."
When you look deeper into the root of this Hebrew word, you discover that it doesn't just mean that Jesus is just visiting with you. It means He is actually dwelling with you!**

This name means that Jesus is always, always with you because He never leaves you or forsakes you.

It means He is the Lord of your past, He is the Lord of your present moment right here and now, and He is the Lord of your future too.

Louie Giglio says, we "start with Jesus, stay with Jesus, and end with Jesus" because He is with us always!

And they shall name Him Emmanuel, which means 'God is with us. - Matthew 1:23