

BREAD OF LIFE

OCTOBER 4, 2020

I. INTRODUCTION

1 Corinthians 2:1-5 And so it was with me, brothers and sisters. When I came to you, I did not come with eloquence or human wisdom as I proclaimed to you the testimony about God. For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. I came to you in weakness with great fear and trembling. My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power, so that your faith might not rest on human wisdom, but on God's power.

John 6:24-25 Once the crowd realized that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they got into the boats and went to Capernaum in search of Jesus. When they found him on the other side of the lake, they asked him, "Rabbi, when did you get here?"

II. WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

John 6:26-27 Jesus answered, "Very truly I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw the signs I performed but because you ate the loaves and had your fill. Do not work for food that spoils, but for food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For on him God the Father has placed his seal of approval."

John 6:10-13 Jesus said, "Have the people sit down." There was plenty of grass in that place, and they sat down (about five thousand men were there). Jesus then took the loaves, gave thanks, and distributed to those who were seated as much as they wanted. He did the same with the fish. When they had all had enough to eat, he said to his disciples, "Gather the pieces that are left over. Let nothing be wasted." So they gathered them and filled twelve baskets with the pieces of the five barley loaves left over by those who had eaten.

A. You might come to Jesus for what He can give you.

1. Jesus is our provider.

John 6:27 Do not work for food that spoils, but for food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For on him God the Father has placed his seal of approval."

- If Jesus is just our provider, we will stop seeking when we think we have enough.

2. Gifts are temporary. The Giver is eternal.

- Contentment is found when we focus on the Giver and not on the gift.

John 6:28-29 Then they asked him, “What must we do to do the works God requires?” Jesus answered, “The work of God is this: to believe in the one he has sent.”

B. You might come to Jesus for what He can fix for you.

1. Crisis creates hunger.

- If Jesus is just our fixer, we will stop seeking when things don't seem so broken.
- *Jesus is our savior, not our fixer.*

2. We may want Jesus to be our self-help savior.

- Salvation is not what we do, but what He did.
- Salvation is not who we are, but who He is.
- *Following Jesus is not a matter of doing, but of receiving grace and becoming more like Jesus.*

3. We may want Jesus to be our political savior.

John 6:14-15 After the people saw the sign Jesus performed, they began to say, “Surely this is the Prophet who is to come into the world.” Jesus, knowing that they intended to come and make him king by force, withdrew again to a mountain by himself.

John 6:4 The Jewish Passover Festival was near.

- Reminder: We are citizens of a Heavenly Kingdom and not just an earthly nation.
- I must do my part to build a God-honoring earthly nation.
- My allegiance is to a higher King and Kingdom.

John 6:30-31 So they asked him, “What sign then will you give that we may see it and believe you? What will you do? Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written: ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’”

C. You might come to Jesus for what He can do for you.

1. Jesus is our miracle worker.

- If Jesus is just our miracle worker, we will stop seeking when we get bored.

John 6:32-33 Jesus said to them, “Very truly I tell you, it is not Moses who has given you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is the bread that comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.”

John 6:34-35 “Sir,” they said, “always give us this bread.” Then Jesus declared, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.”

2. I am the bread of life.

- We need to stop following Jesus for something and start following Him because of something.

D. We must come to Jesus because of who He is.

Isaiah 55:1-2 “Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost. Why spend money on what is not bread, and your labor on what does not satisfy? Listen, listen to me, and eat what is good, and you will delight in the richest of fare.”

1. Your hunger is deeper than you even realize.
2. In every one of us, there is a hunger that is only satisfied when we give ourselves to Him.