

John 6:22-59

CG Discussion Guide// Week of Feb. 19, 2023

INTRODUCTION

- Icebreaker: What is a movie that you love but very few people know about or like?
- Take some time to pray for one another's needs and requests (refer to Prayer Guide as needed)
- Harbor Network sister church to pray for: Grace Fellowship, Birmingham, AL (Pastor: Joel Busby)
- Choose discussion questions, prayer guide, or abide time questions depending on your group's needs

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- From Jesus' rebuke of the people, it sometimes sounds like He's pitting physical needs and wants to spiritual needs and wants. Is that what He is doing?
- Why does Jesus rebuke the intent of the people who are "following" Him and "seeking after Him"? What is so important about personal intent when following Jesus?
 - How would this affect how we share Jesus with others?
- Why would Jesus use "eating bread of His flesh" and "drinking His blood" to illustrate belief and trust in Him?
 - Would you describe your faith and following Jesus as important as eating and drinking for sustenance?
 - How would it affect how we share Jesus to others, knowing that it's as important as (or even more important than) eating and drinking?
- What does this passage teach about the role of the Father in anyone coming to faith in Jesus? (point out specific verses if possible) What do you make of that?
 - How does this passage explain why people reject Jesus?
- So we are called to believe in Jesus, to "eat and drink" Jesus (human responsibility), but we are also told that the Father causes us to believe and secures those who believe in Jesus (divine sovereignty). How do you make sense of that?
 - *For CG Leaders to share to CG if desired: J.I. Packer, from Evangelism and the Sovereignty of God "What the Bible does is to assert both truths side by side in the strongest and most unambiguous terms as two ultimate facts; this, therefore is the position we must take in our own thinking. C. H. Spurgeon was one asked if he could reconcile these two truths to each other. 'I wouldn't try,' he replied; 'I never reconcile friends.' Friends? – Yes, friends. This is the point that we have to grasp. In the Bible, divine sovereignty and human responsibility are not enemies. They are not uneasy neighbors; they are not in an endless state of cold war with each other. They are friends, and they work together."*
- For those of us who have "eaten and drunk" of Jesus unto salvation, how does "eating and drinking" of Jesus look like in the day to day?
- Take some time to pray for specific individuals who you desire to come to Jesus.

Abide Time: John 6:22-59

- What realities are you facing this week? What is occupying your thoughts? How do you feel?

- Read the passage and let God speak to you in you reality through his Word. Write down your reflections as God shepherds you:
 - What does the text say is true about God and his character?

 - What does it say about the world around you?

- How do your reflections above speak to your reality?

- What did you experience in your heart and soul as God spoke to you and your reality?

- What did you experience in your body, given your reflections and what you experienced in your heart and soul?

- How is God inviting you to live differently?

- What does all of what you shared above say about God and his relationship with you?

WEEKLY PRAYER GUIDE

The Bible promises that anything we ask for in Jesus' name – that is according to His will – shall be granted to us (John 14:13-14). In view of this great promise, the prayer requests are all grounded in Scripture. When we pray Scripture, we can be certain that we are praying according to God's will.

That does not mean God will grant our requests in our preferred time or according to our frail wisdom; but it does mean that we can pray confidently knowing that God delights to answer these requests, for they are His words.

Use the accompanying Scripture verses to shape and inform your prayers.

PRAY FOR YOURSELF & YOUR FAMILY:

- That your daily life will bring honor to the name of Jesus – (2 Thess. 1:11-12)
- That you will cast all of your anxieties on God – (1 Peter 5:6-7)
- That you will consider your trials as an opportunity for joy – (James 1:2-4)

PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH:

- That the power of Christ will rest on our church and ministries [Worship Gathering, Community Groups, Men/Women, Youth, Children, etc.] – (2 Cor. 12:9-10)
- That God will give us the wisdom and faith that we desperately need to continue in faithful mission – (James 1:5-8)
- That God will make us fruitful in ministry – (John 15:1-2) – and bold in witness – (Eph. 6:18-20)

PRAY FOR OUR CITY:

- That God will give wisdom to our government (local, state, and national) that we may lead peaceful, godly lives – (1 Timothy 2:1-2)
- That the Lord will continue to provide open doors of gospel ministry in IU and the Bloomington community – (1 Corinthians 16:9)
- That the work of God will be displayed in the lives of the members of our sister churches – (John 9:3)

PRAY FOR OUR WORLD:

- That the persecuted church will find fellowship with Jesus as they share in his sufferings – (Philippians 3:10-11)
- That the Lord of the harvest will send out more workers to unreached people groups because they have been gripped by Paul's missionary logic in Romans 10:13-17 – (Matthew 9:37-38)
- That Christ will return bringing the fullness of salvation with him – (Revelation 22:20)

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Feb. 19: Redeemer-in-10
- Feb. 22: Ash Wednesday
- Feb. 26: Child + Family Dedication
- March 1: Redeemer Men
- March 10-19: Brazil Trip

Reminder: All events are listed in the Events tab in our Redeemer app. You can RSVP for specific events by going to the Events tab, clicking on an event, and following the link to register.