

Scripture:

John 6:35–51

Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst. But I said to you that you have seen me and yet do not believe. All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never cast out. For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will but the will of him who sent me. And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day." So the Jews grumbled about him, because he said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven." They said, "Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How does he now say, 'I have come down from heaven'?" Jesus answered them, "Do not grumble among yourselves. No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him. And I will raise him up on the last day. It is written in the Prophets, 'And they will all be taught by God.' Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me— not that anyone has seen the Father except he who is from God; he has seen the Father. Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes has eternal life. I am the bread of life. Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. And the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

Notes:

I AM...

- The bread of life (John 6:35)
- The light of the world (John 8:12)
- The door of the sheep (John 10:7-10)
- The good shepherd (John 10:11)
- The way, the truth, and the life (John 14:6)
- The true vine (John 15:1-11)
- The resurrection and the life (John 11:25)

Who He Is Changes Who We Are

THE PURSUIT OF JESUS — 6:22-34

Two reasons people follow Jesus

1. They want Him to be their leader
2. They recognize Him to be their Lord

When you want Him to be your Leader...

- You want miracles
- You want more food
- You want liberation, freedom
- You want supernatural proof...to your satisfaction

If we follow Jesus because of what He gives we will be forever searching.

THE MESSAGE OF JESUS — 6:35-40

- Come and believe
- Look on and believe in

Coming to Jesus AND believing leads to eternal satisfaction...eternal life (vs. 35, 40, 44, 47, 50, 51, 58)

When you recognize Him to be your Lord

- He offers SPIRITUAL miracles (forgiveness of sin)...and physical, too
- He offers SPIRITUAL food
- He offers SPIRITUAL liberation, freedom
- He offers SPIRITUAL, supernatural proof...exclusive to God's will, God's call, God's work
- Redirects us to the future

If we follow Jesus because of who He is (LORD) we will be forever satisfied.

Theological Pause

- Some will come to Jesus BUT not believe (vs. 36)
- The Father gives some, but not all (vs. 37)...
- ALL that the Father gives WILL come AND believe (vs. 37)
- Those who come are secure...never cast out (vs. 37)
- This is God the Father's plan (vs. 38)
- Carried out by Jesus (vs. 39)
- God gives some the motive to follow Jesus...surrendered to His way

Unconditional Election

The act of God before creation in which He chooses particular sinners for salvation, not on account of any foreseen act, merit, or response in them, but only based on His sovereign will and good pleasure.

Exodus 33:19, Deuteronomy 10:14-15, Psalm 33:12, Haggai 2:23, Matthew 11: 27, 22:14, Romans 8:28-30,33, Colossians 3:12, Revelation 17:14

Irresistible Grace

The act of God, speaking through human proclamation of the Gospel, effectively calls people and also gives them regeneration in such a way that they respond in saving faith; the Holy Spirit never fails to bring to salvation those whom He calls to Christ.

Matthew 13:10-11,16, Luke 8:10, John 5:21, Romans 8:14,30, 1 Corinthians 2:10-13, Galatians 1:15-16, 2 Timothy 1:9, Titus 3:5, 1 Peter 1:3,

Perseverance/preservation of the Saints

The doctrine that all those who are truly born again will be kept by God's power and will persevere as Christians until the end of their life, and that only those who persevere until the end have truly been born again.

Isaiah 54:10, Jeremiah 32:40, John 3:36, 6:35-40,10:27-30, Romans 5:8-10, 8:29-30, 1 Corinthians 10:13, Ephesians 4:30, 2 Timothy 4:18, Hebrews 12:28

BUT THIS IS HARD (to hear and to understand)

- Why did God chose some and not others?
- This may trip you up.
- Get up, dust yourself off, and dig into Scripture.

BUT THIS IS HARD (to hear and to understand)

Eventually...

- 6:60 — Disciples, "This is hard, not easy to hear this stuff."
- 6:66 — Some leave
- 6:67 — Jesus, "you wanna leave too?"
- 6:68-69 — Peter, "to where/whom? You're the One."

THE RESPONSE TO JESUS — 6:37,41-51

Come to Jesus

- Whoever comes... never cast out
- Eternal life

Grumbling and Murmuring

- "This is Jesus, Joseph's son"
- Nothing new
- The may admire or acknowledge

Without Jesus we are...lost and searching

But, Jesus is...the bread of life

With Jesus...we are found and promised eternal life

THIS WEEK

1. Reflect — where do you truly go for your sustenance? What idols do you pursue?
2. Pray — Matthew 6:11, “Give us this day our daily bread...”
3. Together — Encourage one another to pursue the Bread of Life. Humbly ask what “bread” others see you pursuing.
4. Share — Be ready to share evidence of who Jesus is and He’s done in your life.