

111520 Growth Group Study

The Bread of Life

John 6:22-40



Background: Jesus says, "I am the bread of life." It sure is a strange way to talk about yourself, isn't it? I am bread? I could understand if he would have said maker of bread, or baker of bread or giver of bread. But, I am bread? A person is bread? Really? No one ever spoke like this! Come this Sunday as we explore this famous saying by Jesus.

Sermon Text (ESV):

John 6:22-40

I. The Setting (22-24)

22 On the next day the crowd that remained on the other side of the sea saw that there had been only one boat there, and that Jesus had not entered the boat with his disciples, but that his disciples had gone away alone. 23 Other boats from Tiberias came near the place where they had eaten the bread after the Lord had given thanks. 24 So when the crowd saw that Jesus was not there, nor his disciples, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum, seeking Jesus.

II. The One Work (25-29)

25 When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?" 26 Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you are seeking me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. 27 Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of

Man will give to you. For on him God the Father has set his seal.” 28 Then they said to him, “What must we do, to be doing the works of God?” 29 Jesus answered them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.”

III. The Challenge (30-34)

30 So they said to him, “Then what sign do you do, that we may see and believe you? What work do you perform? 31 Our fathers ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’” 32 Jesus then said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, it was not Moses who gave 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.” 34 They said to him, “Sir, give us this bread always.”

IV. The Bread of Life (35-40)

35 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. 36 But I said to you that you have seen me and yet do not believe. 37 All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never cast out. 38 For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will but the will of him who sent me. 39 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. 40 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.”

Discussion Questions:

- Preparation
 - As you reflect on the sermon, what stands out to you most?
 - What question(s) did you come away with from the sermon?
- Sermon Questions
 - Where do you go to find satisfaction & contentment? In Jesus we find enduring, eternal food, but from the world we find food that spoils. In what ways are you working for the kind of food that only temporarily satisfies?
 - On a scale of 1 (not busy at all) to 10 (crazy busy), how busy are you/do you feel? Compare this busyness to God's work in verse 29: *that you believe in him whom he has sent*. How can you “un-busy” yourself this week?

- Like the people who give Moses the credit for manna in the wilderness, in what situations or to whom do you give credit for doing what only God could accomplish? Will you give Him alone the glory and praise?
- In this passage, Jesus is trying to impress upon his hearers that they/we cannot make it without Him... even a day! We must “keep coming & keep believing” because following Him is more about a lifestyle than a single, “quick fix” solution.
 - If you’re not already, how can you re-orient your schedule to make time for pursuing Jesus every day?
 - Among those in your growth group, what practices/techniques/methods have worked best for you to spend time with Jesus each day?