

The True Bread of Life - John 6:22-35
Notes, Family Worship, Bible Reading

Notes from the Sermon

Our study today is on a portion of a conversation that Jesus has with a crowd of people. In the early part of Chapter 6 before our reading started in v. 22, Jesus and the disciples were somewhere on the west or northwest side of the sea of galilee. A large crowd had gathered, John says there were 5,000 men, so the crowd was likely 10,000 plus. They were following because they had heard or seen Jesus heal the sick. And Jesus took two fish and five barley loaves and multiplied it to the effect that they all had plenty to eat and there were leftovers. This is the only miracle of Jesus that is recorded in all 4 gospels. It's commonly called the feeding of the 5,000. We have studied or referred to it several times in previous sermons. It is the biggest and most public miracle that is recorded. It involved the disciples since they were the ones who gathered the leftover provisions. Jesus by doing this miracle and providing a real meal, He has conveyed to his disciples and to this mass public gathering that he can meet the needs of everyone present. So, besides the physical nourishment that he provided to everyone, the message is "there's enough of Jesus to go around" and then some.

Because Jesus is fully man and fully God, when he lived on this earth he lived with a perspective that was outside of that time and place. He had the perspective of an eternal God who had left his heavenly home to dwell here on earth. These attributes were part of who He is. Because he is fully God, he looked on people with grace and compassion - that's part of His essence too. He encountered a great group of hungry people in Tiberias. It was His good pleasure to miraculously feed them right then and there. Then the crowd follows Him to Capernaum and Jesus knows their motives. So, in this conversation that we have just read, Jesus is sharing with them an eternal perspective. His essence remains the same, full of compassion and grace. He's pointing out that there is a hunger more devastating than the physical hunger that they just had satisfied. And He is offering bread that is more satisfying than the bread that He gave them in Tiberias - and I bet that was really good bread, don't you? That detail isn't shared in this story but when Jesus turned water into wine, the wedding guests said it was the good stuff. This bread was probably better than Panera. While Jesus was meeting their hunger needs with a supernatural cookout, His mind is on eternity. This is true bread, this is bread that gives life! He foresees the feast that awaits in heaven for those who claim belief in Jesus and join Him back in heaven. He is offering the virtuous life that none of us can live. Back to that question in v. 28 "What must we do, to be doing the works of God?" Answer we might say " trade the work of Jesus for my works", then the work of God is done.

We might summarize the words of Jesus with the crowd this way. That bread that you had yesterday satisfied you for a little while. Enough that you followed me here for more. That was just a taste of what I really have to offer. But I want you to have more. I am offering the bread that will leave you eternally full. Moses gave your ancestors bread for 40 years but that didn't satisfy their spiritual hunger. The bread that I offer is eternity. You eat of this bread - believe in Jesus, and you won't have to come looking for me. I will be with you now and you will dwell with me one day. I know that you came for more physical comfort but the real reason I'm here is to satisfy your souls. Believe in me. Don't focus on the miracle, focus on the miracle worker.

Bible Reading for the Week

Daily Bible Readings

Sun	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat
Genesis 21	Genesis 22	Genesis 23	Genesis 24	Genesis 25	Genesis 26	Genesis 27

Reading from this past week: John 6:22-40

Reading in preparation for this coming Sunday: John 16:25-33

Family Worship

Song - *Everlasting God*

<https://youtu.be/cJ8zXzZp4Jk>

Gospel Project

Story: Together in Jesus

Story Point: The Gospel brings together different people as the church.

Big Picture Question: What is sanctification?

Answer: Sanctification is the process of becoming more like Jesus by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Scripture: Ephesians 2-3

New City Catechism

Question #26: Does Christ's death mean all our sins can be forgiven?

Answer: Yes, because Christ's death on the cross fully paid the penalty for our sin, God will remember our sins no more.

Verse: 2 Corinthians 5:21

Scripture

John 6:22-40

- Imagine you were there at the feeding of the 5000. What about this story do you think is amazing?
- According to Jesus, how do we do the works of God? What exactly does this mean for us?
- How does the metaphor of the Bread of Life help us understand who Jesus is and our relationship with Him?

Prayer

*Pray that God would fill you with the Bread of Life and that you would do His works by believing in Him.

*Pray for the Acts 29 Church Planting Network and our work with them in planting churches here and around the world.