

What Do You Want from Jesus? | John 6 Sermon Discussion Leader Guide

Purpose of Discussion: To refocus our heart on Jesus and not just what want Jesus to do for us.

Sermon Reminder: Continuing in our series, Jesus is More, Keith preached through John 6 focusing on Jesus' statement: "I am the bread of life." John gives us a window into a deeper point in Jesus' miracle of feeding the five thousand. More than a miracle to feed them, Jesus wants to show them who he is and to follow him for the right reasons.

Icebreaker: What kind of bread do you purchase? And, what does that say about you?

Transition: We have so much bread the choices are overwhelming. Keith mentioned that people in Jesus' time would often go 60 days a year without enough food and that 85% of someone's wages was spent on food. Every day had a focus on getting that day's bread in a way not many of us have experienced.

Discussion

Read:

John 6:1-13

¹ Some time after this, Jesus crossed to the far shore of the Sea of Galilee (that is, the Sea of Tiberias), ² and a great crowd of people followed him because they saw the signs he had performed by healing the sick. ³ Then Jesus went up on a mountainside and sat down with his disciples. ⁴ The Jewish Passover Festival was near.

⁵ When Jesus looked up and saw a great crowd coming toward him, he said to Philip, "Where shall we buy bread for these people to eat?" ⁶ He asked this only to test him, for he already had in mind what he was going to do.

⁷ Philip answered him, "It would take more than half a year's wages to buy enough bread for each one to have a bite!"

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⁸ Another of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, spoke up,
⁹ "Here is a boy with five small barley loaves and two small fish, but how far will they go among so many?"

¹⁰ 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). ¹¹ 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.

¹² When they had all had enough to eat, he said to his disciples, "Gather the pieces that are left over. Let nothing be wasted." ¹³ So they gathered them and filled twelve baskets with the pieces of the five barley loaves left over by those who had eaten.

1. What do we learn about the crowds, the disciples, and Jesus from these verses?

Read:

[John 6:14-15, 22-29](#)

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

²² The next day the crowd that had stayed on the opposite shore of the lake realized that only one boat had been there, and that Jesus had not entered it with his disciples, but that they had gone away alone. ²³ Then some boats from Tiberias landed near the place where the people had eaten the bread after the Lord had given thanks. ²⁴ 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.

²⁵ When they found him on the other side of the lake, they asked him, "Rabbi, when did you get here?"

²⁶ 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. 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."

²⁸ Then they asked him, "What must we do to do the works God requires?"

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²⁹ Jesus answered, "The work of God is this: to believe in the one he has sent."

2. Why did Jesus sneak away from the crowd? Why were they following him.
3. What was the real purpose of the miracle according to Jesus?

Read:

John 6:30-36

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

³² 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. ³³ For the bread of God is the bread that comes down from heaven and gives life to the world."

³⁴ "Sir," they said, "always give us this bread."

³⁵ 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. ³⁶ But as I told you, you have seen me and still you do not believe.

4. What is the difference between what the crowd wants and what Jesus offers?

Read:

Keith gave two questions to ask to know whether we want Jesus or we want something from Jesus. What do we pray for? What do we grumble and complain about?

5. If someone listened to what we prayed for and what we complained about, how might they show what we want from Jesus instead of wanting Jesus?
6. How can we practically refocus on Jesus being the bread of life?

Sharing and Prayer:

- In silence, have everyone confess the ways they have wanted Jesus to give them what they wanted more than they have wanted Jesus.
- Then, close in a prayer thanking Jesus for coming to be the bread of life.