

## SERMON-BASED STUDY: THE MULTITUDE

**John 6:26-35, 47-58, ESV** – <sup>26</sup> 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. <sup>27</sup> 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.” <sup>28</sup> Then they said to him, “What must we do, to be doing the works of God?” <sup>29</sup> Jesus answered them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.” <sup>30</sup> So they said to him, “Then what sign do you do, that we may see and believe you? What work do you perform?” <sup>31</sup> Our fathers ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’” <sup>32</sup> 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. <sup>33</sup> For the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.” <sup>34</sup> They said to him, “Sir, give us this bread always.”

<sup>35</sup> 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.

<sup>47</sup> Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes has eternal life. <sup>48</sup> I am the bread of life. <sup>49</sup> Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. <sup>50</sup> This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. <sup>51</sup> 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.”

<sup>52</sup> The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, “How can this man give us his flesh to eat?” <sup>53</sup> So Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. <sup>54</sup> Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day. <sup>55</sup> For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. <sup>56</sup> Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him. <sup>57</sup> As the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever feeds on me, he also will live because of me. <sup>58</sup> This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like the bread the fathers ate, and died. Whoever feeds on this bread will live forever.”

### Notes:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

### QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week’s teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

## ENGAGE WITH THE MESSAGE

- 1 This week we see Jesus referring to Himself as “the bread of life,” How does this metaphor illustrate His relationship to people?
- 2 What does it look like to depend on Jesus as our bodies depend on food to sustain us?
- 3 What is the natural outflow of a person who fully depends on Jesus for everything?

## DIGGING DEEPER

**A** **Exodus 3:13-15, ESV** – <sup>13</sup> Then Moses said to God, “If I come to the people of Israel and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ what shall I say to them?”  
<sup>14</sup> God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM.” And he said, “Say this to the people of Israel: ‘I AM has sent me to you.’”  
<sup>15</sup> God also said to Moses, “Say this to the people of Israel: ‘The LORD, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you.’ This is my name forever, and thus I am to be remembered throughout all generations.

**Exodus 16:4-5, ESV** – <sup>4</sup> Then the LORD said to Moses, “Behold, I am about to rain bread from heaven for you, and the people shall go out and gather a day’s portion every day, that I may test them, whether they will walk in my law or not.”  
<sup>5</sup> On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather daily.”

- 4 Looking at Exodus 3:13-15, what is significant about the name “I AM”? What would this mean to those listening when Jesus said, “I Am the bread of life”?
- 5 What was the meaning of bread for the Jewish people? How does Jesus’ metaphor relate to their understanding of God and His provisions?
- 6 Why is Jesus essential for eternal life? How would you explain His claim to be “the bread of life” to a nonbeliever?

**B** **2 Corinthians 5:20-6:2, ESV** – <sup>20</sup> Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup> For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. <sup>1</sup> Working together with him, then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain. <sup>2</sup> For he says, “In a favorable time I listened to you, and in a day of salvation I have helped you.” Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation.

**Matthew 5:6, ESV** – <sup>6</sup> “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

**7** According to 2 Corinthians 5:20-6:2, how has Jesus fulfilled the natural human desire for eternal life?

**8** What does Jesus mean by His statement in Matthew 5:6?

**9** How is Jesus’ proclamation in John 6 also an invitation to follow Him?

## TAKING IT HOME

Just as bread (food) is essential for our physical bodies, Jesus is essential for our eternal (spiritual) bodies. He provides the means for us to have eternal life with Him. Our part is to “hunger and thirst” for righteousness. How are you doing seeking after His righteousness? What impact is it having on your life? Share with your group or accountability partner what God has been showing you. Pray for one another as you seek to be people who “hunger and thirst” for Jesus on a daily basis.

## PRAISES AND PRAYER REQUEST

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## FOR FURTHER STUDY

Ecclesiastes 3:11  
Matthew 26:26-29