



The Bread of Life

John 6:22-40

Topical – just back from Indonesia

Sermon given on March 17, 2019



CALVARY CHAPEL
FRENCH VALLEY

Sunday Morning Service

Pastor Rick Lancaster

The Bread of Life

John 6:22-40

Opening Comments

- Turn to **John 6**
- We will be back in Luke next week
- In today's text, we are going to look at some people that come to Jesus looking for something
- And it got me to thinking
- When was the last time you examined why you come to church?
- What are you hoping to get out of this hour and a half?
- That is assuming you weren't dragged here
- Why are you here? What are you expecting to receive?
- The one's that come in today's text come for the wrong reason
- How Jesus responds to them can help us examine our own motives

Teaching

- **The Bread of Life**
- Last time Jesus performed four great miracles
- One was very public – the feeding of the 5,000+
- The other three were private – only the disciples saw them
- Jesus walked on the water – calmed the storm – transported them to their destination
- Gospel of John has one primary message – Jesus is God
- Miracles & signs used to prove His deity
- But they also set up His teaching the people
- Miracles are spectacular and amazing, they feed the senses, but they don't feed the soul
- The soul needs something else to sustain it
- **John 6:22-25**
- These are the people that Jesus fed with 5 loaves & 2 fishes
- Saw Him put disciples into boat – go up to mountain to pray
- When did you get here? Jesus doesn't answer their question
- He knows they have a greater need than simple curiosity

- **John 6:26**

- They had come to Jesus originally because of all the miracles
- Then He fed them miraculously
- Not there because you saw the signs = miracle with a message
- You witnessed the miracle, but you missed the message
- They were there because they were hungry again
- They are thinking of material things
- Jesus will try to change their focus

- **John 6:27**

- Tells them not to be focused on satisfying the needs of their belly
- If your focus is on eating, you will never be satisfied
- The best meal you have ever eaten only satisfies until that food has passed from the stomach, then you want more
- There is something eternal we should labor for **Matthew 6:33**

But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

- Seek God's kingdom above all else – food will be provided to you
- Father – set His seal = identification and approval
- They are still missing the point

- **John 6:28**

- Asking “What can we do so that God will approve of us or save us?”
- In man's sinfulness wants to do works that make God a debtor to him
- Even something as simple as coming to church on Sunday
- Want to do works so that God owes them salvation and blessings
- Jesus gives them a simple answer – the simplicity of the gospel

- **John 6:29**

- Salvation is not about what you have done, can do, or will do
 - It is all about what God has done - all about grace **Ephesians 2:8-9**
- For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.**
- On the cross Jesus said, ‘It is finished!’
 - All the work of salvation was completed on the cross
 - The only work we can do of any value is to believe in Jesus and His sacrifice for my sins
 - Only then do any of my other works have any real value

- They are still not convinced
- **John 6:30-31**
- Show us a miracle so that we can believe
- Seeing is believing! Really? God has a different way **John 11:40**
Jesus said to her, “Did I not say to you that if you would believe you would see the glory of God?”
- The only way to see the things of God is to believe first
- They were there because of all His miracles – were fed by Him
- Saying now, do something even bigger – outdo Moses
- He fed Israel Manna for forty years – Jesus corrects them
- **John 6:32-33**
- Came from God – not Moses – and that was not the true bread
- That bread only sustained the flesh – did not bring life to the soul
- That bread was only for the Israelites – God has bread for the whole world and not just for 40 years, but forever
- **John 6:34**
- This should remind us of the Samaritan woman at the well, ‘Give me this water’
- Still only thinking of their carnal needs
- **John 6:35**
- ‘I am the bread of life’ – 1st of 7 ‘I am’ statements in John
- They had come to Jesus looking for a meal
- He had come to give them eternal life
- Those who come and believe ‘never hunger or thirst’
- If we come to Jesus and believe we can be spiritually filled all the time
- If we, as believers, feel empty, hungry, or thirsty, it is not because Jesus is holding out on us – come and believe
- Jesus tells them that is what their problem is
- **John 6:36**
- What a great privilege – saw and talked to God Incarnate
- Saw His miracles – heard His teachings from His own lips
- And they didn’t believe – not because they couldn’t
- **John 6:37-40**

- Promise is that anyone that comes to Jesus is guaranteed to get to heaven **John 10:28-29**

And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand. My Father, who has given *them* to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch *them* out of My Father's hand.

- God the Father and the Son have a double-fisted grip on your life
- And your only part is to see and believe
- At beginning of message asked why you are here
- Is it just to get something to get you through the next week?
- Maybe you came spiritually empty, hungry, or thirsty
- You shouldn't have to come to church to be filled
- 3 quick things to be filled spiritually all the time
- 1st thing **Come to Jesus Daily**
- This life has a way of draining the spiritual strength from us
- Must daily replenish our strength by coming to Jesus and asking Him to fill us – prayer & Bible
- As a simple act of faith – come to Jesus every day
- 2nd thing **See Jesus in Everything**
- Because we are firmly in the hands of God, everything that happens in our life is directly connected to Him
- Don't look at the circumstances of your life – look for Jesus in your circumstances
- What is He trying to accomplish? What is your role?
- 3rd thing **Believe Every Word of Jesus**
- Bible is the living Word of God
- In it we learn of Jesus – In Jesus we have life **John 10:10**
I have come that they may have life, and that they may have *it* more abundantly.
- Do you believe every word in the Bible?
- Faith grows as our understanding grows – read Bible daily
- As our faith grows, we come more readily, see more clearly and believe more fully
- If you are empty – Come – See – Believe – and be filled
- **Prayer**