

Small Group & Personal Bible Study Lesson

Pastor Dennis Hadley

Memory Verse: John 6:35

"Then Jesus declared, 'I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty.'"

Daily Reading Plan:

- Day 1: Luke 9:10-17
- Day 2: John 6:1-15
- Day 3: John 6:25-40
- Day 4: John 6:41-59
- Day 5: John 6:60-71
- Day 6: Exodus 16
- Day 7: Deuteronomy 8:1-3

Lesson: His Ministry Requires Compassion: From Christ - Through You.

1. How does Jesus explain the difference between the bread (manna) the Father sent to the Israelites in the desert and Himself, the bread of life sent from Heaven? (Read John 6:32-51)

Jesus is the true bread. He gives life eternal. If I come to Him I will never go hungry. The manna only lasted a short time. For 40 years in the desert the Israelites depended on daily Manna from God. And even though they ate the manna they died. Jesus was the eternal bread of life. Whoever eats of Him will live forever. When we take Him in He remains in us and provides eternal salvation. And He chooses to use our life to bring glory to the Father.

2. How does taking in this Bread of Life from Heaven become a stumbling block for the Jews? How have you seen people stumble today with the Truth about Jesus? (Read John 6:52-67)

They were stuck trying to understand what they could not accept. It went against their traditions and their comfort zone. We live a world filled with human reasoning. Our human reasoning will never bring us to Christ. Some think they know better. Because of this the mind who does not submit to the Truth is instead turned away from the Truth. Jesus is challenging us to completely take Him in as the only Way, the only Truth, and the only life. There is no other way to the Father and He cannot and will not allow us to accept any other options to life. They are all lies. Without Him we are without hope. With Him we have eternal hope in the promise of salvation. That is a hard thing to accept for many people. How could we be so bold and so narrow minded would be the thoughts of many. When we encounter that opposition, then we are to shake the dust of our shoes and move on (last week's message). PS: That doesn't mean we shouldn't pray for them or love them as Christ did.

3. How might Jesus use you to bring the Bread of Life to someone in your life?

Let people share some specific opportunities God has placed before them. Encourage them to pray and respond in obedience. Help them to discern where God is moving and drawing and where there is opposition.

4. Looking at the message found in the text of Luke 9:10-17, what will be required of you if you are to bring the message of Christ's compassion as the Bread of Life to a hungry world?

Jesus was compassionate. Jesus always gave people what was needed most. When people were hungry, he fed them. When they were sick, he healed them. When they were blind he helped them see. When they were lame he made them walk. When they were darkened by sin and opposed to the Truth he admonished them. And when they needed salvation (every one of them) He gave them the way to eternal life.

I must become compassionate like Christ. I must pray that God would give me the eyes and ears and the hands and feet of Jesus. I must pray for God to show me, move me, equip me, and use me. I must ask for wisdom to see where he is already working. John 6:44 says that "no one comes to me unless the Father who sent me draws him." We must recognize that unless God is at work, we cannot do anything of eternal value, but when God is at work He will use you to bring the message of salvation to those He has called out and you will be used for His purpose.