

Parable of Bread John 6:22-40

Bread – Food, substance of life

We have bread in the Adult 5 area for people to take home thanks to Panera Bread giving their left over bread to mission/church work.

There are children stories about bread. Bread is mentioned throughout the Bible. Many years ago, the staple food in prisons was bread and water.

So, it should be no surprise to find Jesus talking about bread also.

Today's story setting is along the shore of Capernaum the day after Jesus fed the 5000. People from across the sea have arrived to see more of the great things Jesus could do.

The people ask Jesus a question that causes Jesus to address the real reason for them following after Him. "When did you get here?" Jesus replied by telling the people they were following Him for the free food.

Then in verse 27 He makes a thought provoking statement. "Don't spend your time seeking things that perish. Instead seek after the eternal life that I give."

Let me ask you. "What are you wasting your time on trying to get out of this world?" What is the top priority in your life? Is it seeking God's will and direction?

When was the last time you received a word/message from God? I'm not just talking about hearing God speak directly to you although His can do that if He chooses.

He also speaks to us through the Bible as we read/study/meditation on it. He speaks through the words of other people. And He speaks directly to us through our mind and conscience.

In verse 35, Jesus went on with His discussion by saying "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to Me will never hunger and whoever believes in Me will never thirst."

I am the bread of life. What does that mean to us today? How can we use this idea to encourage others and ourselves?

Jesus is saying He is the very food that fills the stomach to satisfaction. He is the food that brings people to a place that they experience the absolute fullness of life.

Do you desire to be satisfied with life? Jesus can bring that to you. Notice that Jesus did not say you would not experience any hard times. Following Jesus brings real meaning and purpose to your life.

How much do we allow Jesus to help us in our daily activities? Whether we are in the hospital, or struggling with family issues, or dealing with financial problems, or trying to overcome other problems, or even if everything seems to be going well at the time, Jesus wants to satisfy the longings of your life.

Are you willing to allow Jesus to do that for you?

Jesus went on to say whoever believes in Him would never thirst.

The 2 things of life that we must have to survive and grow are food and water. The very things we need to truly live spiritually are food and water. Jesus offers both to everyone. Just like with our physical body, we must eat and drink to get the nutrients that allow us to grow. If we don't eat and drink, we die from starvation.

Are you staving in your spiritual life from not following and believing in Jesus Christ? Jesus is waiting for you to come to Him so He can satisfy your hunger and thirst. Will you allow Him to do that for you?