

“I AM THE BREAD OF LIFE”

John 6:25–59

Key Verse: 6:35

1. Examine verses 26–27. What stark contrast does Jesus draw between the crowd’s motive for seeking him and the true reason to seek him? Based on verse 29, how does he redefine the concept of “the work of God” compared to the crowd’s view? How might you be “working for the food that spoils”?
2. In verses 30–31 the people demand a sign and cite the historical miracle of manna in the wilderness. In verse 32 how does Jesus correct their understanding of who gives the true bread, and how does he define its nature (33)? In what ways might we be demanding something of Jesus rather than recognizing who he really is?
3. Look closely at the language in verse 35. Jesus is not promising us to never be in physical need, but he *is* promising to end our spiritual hunger and thirst. What two things do we need to do to experience this? In your daily life what does it look like to do this?
4. Trace the chain of custody of a believer outlined in verses 37–40: who gives the people to Jesus? What is Jesus’ explicit vow to those who come? According to verse 39, what is the Father’s absolute will regarding what Jesus does with them? How does this affect your personal assurance of salvation?
5. In verses 41–42 what obstacle prevents these people from accepting Jesus’ identity? Look at verses 44–45; what hidden work must happen before anyone can truly come to Jesus? Knowing that the Father must actively “draw” a person, how does this relieve us of the pressure of sharing our faith with skeptical people?
6. Read verses 53–58; note the graphic progression from “eating” to “feeding on” and “drinking” his blood. In the Jewish context of the sacrificial system and food laws, why would this be so shocking? According to verse 56, what is the direct consequence of this intimate consumption? What does it mean to you to depend on Jesus like this?
7. Review the entire movement of his dialogue. How does Jesus expose the difference between contemporary consumerism and eternal sustenance? What can you do to start enjoying Jesus as your life-sustaining bread?