

Answering Jesus: Does Jesus Satisfy Your Deepest Hunger?***John 6***

As you think about this past week, why did you read your Bible, or pray, or show up to your Life Group? Why did you do ANY of the spiritual things that you did? Sometimes the answer to such questions is that we are seeking Jesus because we need Him to do something for us. There is nothing wrong with this. Jesus has told us to ask Him for our daily needs. He does do stuff for us. But our passage today reminds us that at a deeper level we are to seek Jesus simply because He is worth seeking, and not just for what He can do for us. Yes, He provides our daily bread, but He himself IS the bread of life!

Opening Discussion: What's your favorite kind of bread?

Read John 6:1-15

1. Why were the crowds following Jesus (vv. 1-2)?

2. How would you describe what happened in your own words?

3. What do we learn about Jesus here?

4. What did the people get right and what did they get wrong about Jesus (vv. 14-15)?

Read John 6:22-40

5. What does Jesus reveal about why the people sought Him (v. 26)?

6. Jesus says that He is the true bread that comes from God and which gives life. What does He say about how one experiences what He offers as this true bread (v. 35; see also vv. 51-58)?

7. What does Jesus say about his ability to meet our deepest needs (v. 35)?

Steve said:

This promise should make us evaluate what we're expecting of Jesus. Are you mainly expecting Jesus to give you food and shelter and the essentials of life? That's appropriate because Jesus taught us to pray, "Give us this day our daily bread." But do we understand that everything He does for us is a sign that should point us to Him. The true value of a relationship with Jesus is not in what He can do for us; the value of a relationship with Jesus *is* Jesus. ***He is our treasure, our joy, our life.***

8. In what ways do you sometimes get focused more on what Jesus can do for you instead of actually focusing on HIM as your true treasure, joy and life?

Steve said:

The question that John 6 asks of each of us is: ***Are you allowing Jesus [as the bread of life] to satisfy the deepest hunger of your soul?*** Or do you come to church, read your Bible, pray, etc. only because of what Jesus can do for you? I am NOT suggesting that we shouldn't want Jesus to do things for us. Jesus taught us to pray, "Give us this day our daily bread". . . But what He can do for us shouldn't be the only thing - or even the main thing - we seek from Him. The most essential, satisfying thing we need from Him has already been supplied; because of His crucifixion, Jesus is the bread of life that has been given to us. Are you allowing Him to satisfy the deepest hunger of your soul? Are you allowing Him to give you peace, wholeness, rest, contentment, joy, life?

9. In what ways HAVE you experienced this truth of Jesus satisfying the deepest hunger of your soul?

10. What might it look like to more consistently seek Jesus to satisfy the deepest hunger of your soul and to allow Him to give you peace, wholeness, rest, contentment, and joy?