



I AM THE BREAD OF LIFE

SUNDAY, APRIL 7, 2024

KEY SCRIPTURE | John 6:32–51

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Our new message series, *I AM*, looks at the statements in the gospel of John. Jesus made outrageous claims about Himself that help us understand who He is. These statements show how the words and actions of Jesus are the words and actions of God himself. In John 6, Jesus feeds the 5,000, echoing the wilderness feeding of Israel in the book of Exodus. Jesus told the crowd that God provides more than ordinary, physical bread. Jesus, Himself, is the “bread of life”. Jesus uses the metaphor of “eating and drinking” to mean “believing”. Whoever believes in Jesus will never go hungry or thirsty again. The hungry person who comes to Jesus will be satisfied. We often go to the wrong places to find satisfaction—wealth, status, relationships, drugs, or alcohol. But these things will never satisfy. We must “eat the bread” Jesus offers us to be filled. Life creates hunger only Jesus satisfies.

QUESTIONS

Icebreaker: What is the food you crave the most?

1. What are some ways you have tried to seek fulfillment and purpose from outside of Jesus? Or, in what ways do you observe people attempting to find satisfaction?
2. Read John 6:32–51 together as a group. In what ways can you relate to the crowd in this passage?
3. Read Exodus 16:11–15. How is this passage similar to John 6:32–51?
4. In John 6:35, Jesus claims to be the “bread of life” that will fully satisfy us. In what ways have you experienced this to be true in your own life? Have you struggled to truly believe this?
5. Read John 10:10. What does Jesus say His purpose is? What does this mean to you?
6. What did you learn about God in this study? How is God asking you to respond to His invitation to come and eat the “bread of life”?



NOTES

What does "I AM" mean? Read Exodus 3:14.

God is self-existent (Uncreated)

God is who He says He is.

He has no beginning.

He has no end.

He is completely independent.

He is constant.

DIGGING DEEPER

Read Isaiah 55 below. Isaiah 55 is part of the Servant Song section in Isaiah predicting the suffering and sacrificial life of the Messiah. How does it connect to what you read in John 6?

"Come, all you who are thirsty,

come to the waters;

and you who have no money,

come, buy and eat!

Come, buy wine and milk

without money and without cost.

Why spend money on what is not bread,

and your labor on what does not satisfy?

Listen, listen to me, and eat what is good,

and you will delight in the richest of fare.

Give ear and come to me;

listen, that you may live.

I will make an everlasting covenant with you,

my faithful love promised to David.

See, I have made him a witness to the peoples,

a ruler and commander of the peoples.

Surely you will summon nations you know not,

and nations you do not know will come running to you,

because of the Lord your God,

the Holy One of Israel,

for he has endowed you with splendor."

Comment on John 6:35

"Jewish expositors had already often used manna as a symbol for spiritual food, God's law, or Torah/Wisdom/Word. Ancient writers also often used water or drinking figuratively (including Jewish teachers using it for Torah or Wisdom) ... Jesus here compares himself with divine Wisdom, but emphasizes the satisfaction of those who eat and drink from him."

—Kenner, Craig. The IVP Bible Background Commentary. Downers Grove, IVP Academic: 2014, page 267.