

Life Group Discussion Guide

The Gospel of John

May 31

LEADER NOTES

This week, Pastor Bob Timm continued the Gospel of John series by discussing Jesus as the bread of life. This self-description of Jesus was difficult for his listeners to understand, due to their concrete views of God and familiarity with Jesus. Consider using an icebreaker that helps your group think about contrasting views in a fun way. This may be a game or a series of questions about the proper ways to load the dishwasher, cook a steak, or whether or not to wear socks with sandals.

QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time, caught your attention, challenged you, or confused you?

THIS WEEK'S TEXT

John 6:32-51 (NLT)

³² Jesus said, "I tell you the truth, Moses didn't give you bread from heaven. My Father did. And now he offers you the true bread from heaven. ³³ The true bread of God is the one who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world."

³⁴ "Sir," they said, "give us that bread every day."

³⁵ Jesus replied, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry again. Whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. ³⁶ But you haven't believed in me even though you have seen me. ³⁷ However, those the Father has given me will come to me, and I will never reject them. ³⁸ For I have come down from heaven to do the will of God who sent me, not to do my own will. ³⁹ And this is the will of God, that I should not lose even one of all those he has given me, but that I should raise them up at the last day. ⁴⁰ For it is my Father's will that all who see his Son and believe in him should have eternal life. I will raise them up at the last day."

⁴¹ Then the people began to murmur in disagreement because he had said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven." ⁴² They said, "Isn't this Jesus, the son of Joseph? We know his father and mother. How can he say, 'I came down from heaven'?"

⁴³ But Jesus replied, "Stop complaining about what I said. ⁴⁴ For no one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws them to me, and at the last day I will raise them up. ⁴⁵ As it is written in the Scriptures, 'They will all be taught by God.' Everyone who listens to the Father and learns from him comes to me. ⁴⁶ (Not that anyone has ever seen the Father; only I, who was sent from God, have seen him.)

⁴⁷ "I tell you the truth, anyone who believes has eternal life. ⁴⁸ Yes, I am the bread of life! ⁴⁹ Your ancestors ate manna in the wilderness, but they all died. ⁵⁰ Anyone who eats the bread from heaven, however, will never die. ⁵¹ I am the living bread that

came down from heaven. Anyone who eats this bread will live forever; and this bread, which I will offer so the world may live, is my flesh."

LOOK UP

In this week's text, the people had a difficult time understanding Jesus because of their familiarity with him and his family (verse 42). In what ways can familiarity with Jesus and the church limit our view of God?

LOOK AROUND

When was the last time you changed your mind about something significant?

Do you find it easy or difficult to shift your thinking? Why?

What is one thing you find hard to believe about Jesus?

LOOK AHEAD

"My hope for this generation is that we embrace spiritual curiosity, that we examine systems and doctrines that oppress and consider that perhaps it was not God that got it wrong, but us." – Jen Hatmaker

What would it look like for you to "embrace spiritual curiosity"?

PRAYER