

Week 10 Discussion Questions

Text: John 6:22-71

Icebreaker: If you could only eat one kind of bread for the rest of your life, what would it be?

1. Read this week's passage. What stands out from the text or sermon?
2. Identify the questions that are asked of Jesus in the passage and discuss how Jesus answers them. How does the answer he provides change the original question and redirect their understanding?
 1. Rabbi, why did you come here?"—He turns it and tells them why they're there and calls into questions their own motives.
 2. "What must we do, to be doing the works of God?"—he answers explicitly and defines the works of God as belief in Himself.
 3. "What sign do you do, that we may see and believe you? What work do you perform?"—He reminds them it was God who gave them the manna in the wilderness, not Moses and declares himself the sign that God sent for them to fulfill what God has been doing from the beginning.
 4. "Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How does he now say, 'I have come down from heaven'?"—Jesus corrects their response and provides a defense of His identity as from the Father and one with the Father.
 5. "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?"—The Jews ask how he can do something and Jesus responds by reiterating not how, but what and why.
 6. "This is a hard saying; who can listen to it?"—Jesus answers with a rhetorical question, wondering what more they would need to see to believe in what He says.
 7. "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life."—Jesus reiterates that he chose them and called them to follow Him, but acknowledges that not all who see Him will believe.
3. Jesus tells his Disciples that the work of God is belief in His son who He sent. How do vs. 56-57 help define your understanding of what Jesus means by belief?

Belief is not simply an ascent to knowledge of God, but is an active abiding relationship that leads to life. Life now and life eternal should be shaped by this abiding relationship.
4. What does it mean to abide in Christ?

Use the metaphor of the vine and branches from John 15 to illustrate what it looks like for us to soak into God's word and His ways allowing them to bear the fruit of the Spirit in our lives.

5. Read together on [Calvary's website](#) the statement of faith concerning belief about God. In what way does John 6:36-48 support this statement of belief?
These verses supply us with understanding of God's limitless knowledge and sovereign power, exemplifying His mission of sending His Son to redeem the world and drawing us back to Himself.
6. This passage of Scripture holds a lot of parallels to the account of Israel wandering in the wilderness found in Exodus. The Israelites grumbled in the wilderness over receiving the manna and discussed turning back to Egypt (where they had been slaves). In what ways is the grumbling of the Disciples and the Jews similar to the grumbling of Israel in the wilderness and in what way is their grumbling different.
The grumbling of the Israelites displayed their lack of faith and trust in God, despite having seen Him do wonderful works back in Egypt as He delivered them from bondage. The Disciples and the Jews also seem to be unsatisfied with what they have already seen Jesus do.
7. In what ways have you been unsatisfied with how God has worked in your life? How can you reorient your heart to see afresh the ways God has worked in your life?
8. Discuss what Jesus means when he says, "I am the bread of life."
In the times Jesus and the Disciples lived, they did not have large grocery stores with every variety of food and flavor you could imagine. Bread was a staple that was a significant way to gain sustenance. Without bread, you likely would not survive. In the same way, Jesus and all that he teaches and offers is what sustains us in life.
9. The Disciples suggest that what Jesus has said is a "hard teaching." What is it that they find hard to hear and how do they respond?
The Disciples could mean that Jesus claiming to be God is difficult or they could mean that Jesus saying they must eat His flesh and blood is difficult. Some of His followers respond by leaving and no longer following Jesus. The 12 realize again that He is the "Holy One of God." and can go nowhere else but follow Him.
10. What is something in your faith journey—past or present—that has been difficult to accept or has been a stumbling block for you?
11. What truths here in John or elsewhere in Scripture have been key to guiding you through the hard things in faith or life?