



## The Bread of Life: The Only Bread We Really Need

August 25, 2024

### John 6:51-69

<sup>51</sup>I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats this bread will live forever. This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.”

<sup>52</sup>Then the Jews began to argue sharply among themselves, “How can this man give us his flesh to eat?”

<sup>53</sup>Jesus said to them, “Very truly I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. <sup>54</sup>Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise them up at the last day. <sup>55</sup>For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink.

<sup>56</sup>Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in them. <sup>57</sup>Just as the living Father sent me and I live because of the Father, so the one who feeds on me will live because of me. <sup>58</sup>This is the bread that came down from heaven. Your ancestors ate manna and died, but whoever feeds on this bread will live forever.” <sup>59</sup>He said this while teaching in the synagogue in Capernaum.

<sup>60</sup>On hearing it, many of his disciples said, “This is a hard teaching. Who can accept it?”

<sup>61</sup>Aware that his disciples were grumbling about this, Jesus said to them, “Does this offend you? <sup>62</sup>Then what if you see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before!

<sup>63</sup>The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing. The words I have spoken to you—they are full of the Spirit and life. <sup>64</sup>Yet there are some of you who do not believe.” For Jesus had known from the beginning which of them did not believe and who would betray him. <sup>65</sup>He went on to say, “This is why I told you that no one can come to me unless the Father has enabled them.”

<sup>66</sup>From this time many of his disciples turned back and no longer followed him.

<sup>67</sup>“You do not want to leave too, do you?” Jesus asked the Twelve.

<sup>68</sup>Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. <sup>69</sup>We have come to believe and to know that you are the Holy One of God.”

1. Why is it helpful to keep in mind that Jesus fed the five thousand right before the Bread of Life discourse?
2. The Jews (presumably some of the Jewish leaders) grumbled and asked, **“How can this man give us his flesh to eat?”**(52) How does this question show that they misunderstood the bread Jesus was talking about?
3. Jesus’ larger group of disciples grumbled at Jesus saying that they needed to feed on him in order to live. How does their response, **“This is a hard teaching; Who can accept it?”** (60) demonstrate that they did understand what he was talking about?
4. What’s the small bit of comfort in realizing that people leave the church today in the same way they walked away from Jesus back then?
5. **“No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws them.”** (44) **“No one can come to me unless the Father has enabled them.”** (65) These words of Jesus almost seem to put Father on trial in our minds, as if he’s to blame for those who don’t believe. What Bible truths help us to remember that God is not to blame for those who don’t believe?
6. Peter answers Jesus’ question, **“You do not want to leave too, do you?”** with words to live by! “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. How will you put those words into practice this week?”