



February 2, 2025  
*Jesus at the Festivals*  
**THE SECOND PASSOVER (PART 2)**  
John 6:16-59



1. **Opening Discussion Questions:** (in a group setting you may not want to use all of these)
  - a. What is the most frightening situation you have ever experienced? Describe how you came to be in that situation and how you responded. Was this an experience in which you had any control over what was happening, or did you just find yourself “a victim of circumstances”?
  - b. As children, we all had something we were afraid of. Looking back at it now as an adult, what was your most amusing fear? Why was it not amusing then? Do you remember what your parents told you about dealing with the fear?
  - c. How important is bread in your meals? What is your favorite type of bread, and do you think it holds any special meaning for you or your family? What is the most unique or unusual bread you’ve ever eaten??
2. **Sermon Outline/Key Points**
  - a. Jesus Reveals More About Himself to His Disciples with a Miraculous Water Crossing
    - i. Jesus privately reveals more by walking on water
    - ii. Worship Jesus!
  - b. Jesus Is the Bread that Gives Eternal Life
    - i. Bread was important in the Passover celebration – Jesus fulfills everything it points to
    - ii. Jesus is the Bread of Life because of His sacrificial death
  - c. Anyone Can Receive the Bread Forever by Believing in Jesus
    - i. Anyone can “eat the bread” by believing in Jesus
    - ii. Take the bread and share it generously like the disciples feeding the crowd
    - iii. Be comforted with the knowledge this bread will endure, no matter what
3. **Study/Discussion Points:**
  - a. **Sunday Afternoon** – As soon as possible after listening to the sermon set aside some time to ponder these questions prayerfully:
    - i. What one thing most stood out to you in this sermon?
    - ii. What new truth did you learn or of what truth were you reminded?
    - iii. After listening to the sermon, is there a Scripture passage you feel led to meditate on or commit to memory this week?
    - iv. What is one thing you feel God is leading you to do after hearing this message?
    - v. Did God convict you of a need to make any changes in your life and walk with Him?

**b. Monday:**

- i. Last week's sermon began the examination of events that occurred at the second Passover by looking at the first fifteen verses of John 6. Start this week by reading the entire 6<sup>th</sup> chapter of John.
  1. What three- or four-word title would you give to this entire chapter?
  2. What truth does this chapter reveal about Jesus? Which do you find most important, the two signs (miracles) Jesus performs or what He teaches those seeking Him in Capernaum?
- ii. Reread John 6:15-21.
  1. What seems surprising about the disciples' actions as described in verses 16-17? How does the parallel account in Matthew 14:22-23 explain their actions? Why do you think Jesus wanted to be left behind?
  2. The Sea of Galilee is about 6-7 miles wide. How much progress had they made on their own? How long do you think it would take to row 3-4 miles against the wind (see Matthew 14:25)?
  3. What was the reaction of the disciples when they saw Jesus walking on the water? In what way is the miracle of walking on water more "terrifying" than feeding 5,000 with a few loaves and fish?
  4. Jesus' greeting includes the familiar refrain "do not be afraid." Read these passages: Genesis 15:1, 21:17, 26:24, 46:3, Exodus 14:13, 20:20, Numbers 21:34, Deuteronomy 1:17-21, 3:2 & 22, Joshua 8:1, 10:8, Isaiah 10:24, 40:9, 41:14, 44:2, 54:4, Jeremiah 30:10, Daniel 10:12 & 19, and Joel 2:21-22. Why should we not fear?
  5. What additional miracle is suggested by John in verse 21?

**c. Tuesday:**

- i. Read John 6:22-25.
  1. What can you conclude about the size of the crowd the next day – especially in view of verse 24?
    - a. Since it is almost certain there were not enough boats to transport 5,000 men plus women and children, what do you think happened to those who were not looking for Jesus the next morning?
    - b. What parallel can we draw to how some people respond when they hear the message of Christ in our day?
- ii. When the crowd that remained located Jesus in Capernaum what did they want to know? What had distracted them from what they were originally seeking Jesus to get? Why do unexplained (or unexplainable) events distract us from the truth? How do we see that phenomenon playing out in people's response to Jesus and the Bible today??
- iii. John 6:25-58 is sometimes known as the "Bread of Life Discourse". Read this passage several times meditating on what Jesus tells the crowd in His time and what He is telling us today.

1. It is common today to hear a pastor present a three-point sermon. If Jesus had been using that format, what would you see as His three main points?
2. How does this discourse challenge you to think about your own spiritual hunger, what fuels it, and how it can be satisfied?

*d. Wednesday:*

- i. Read John 6:25-34.
  1. How did Jesus demonstrate the truth of John 2:24-25 in His initial answer to the crowd? Which should have been more attention-getting: eating a fulfilling meal or watching the Son of God perform a miracle?
  2. Compare verse 27a with Matthew 6:19-20. In what way do they communicate a similar message?
  3. Verse 27a contains an important twist of words. How does Jesus give us the same message Paul makes so clear in Ephesians 2:8-9?
- ii. Verse 27 ends with Jesus making an extremely important pronouncement about His qualifications. How is this claim validated by the events in Matthew 3:16-17 and 17:5?
- iii. Compare Jesus' statements in John 6:32-33 with what He told the woman at the well in John 4:10-13. What were both the woman (John 4:15) and the crowd (John 6:34) expecting when they responded to Jesus?

*e. Thursday:*

- i. Read John 6:35-50.
- ii. Verse 35 gives us the first of seven “I am” statements in John’s Gospel. Look up these verses to read the other six: 8:12, 10:7&9, 10:11&14, 11:25, 14:6, and 15:1&5. How important is this first “I am” statement to you?
- iii. What does Jesus say about the crowd in verse 36? Compare this with John 1:10-14.
- iv. Study verses 37-40 carefully – read it from multiple translations if possible. In your own words, what is Jesus saying in these verses?
  1. Verse 37 includes two unqualified (absolute) promises. Which do you find most important? Why?
  2. The first phrase of verse 37 describes the doctrine we know as “election” – God is absolutely sovereign in salvation. Many people want to claim this doctrine is not taught in the Bible. Read Acts 13:48, Ephesians 1:4, Colossians 3:12, 1 Thessalonians 1:4 and James 2:5. What do you think?
  3. Read these verses from Jesus’ High Priestly prayer (can you imagine a time when words would be truer or more accurate than when the Son of God is speaking to His Father?): John 17:6, 9, and 24. What did Jesus believe?
  4. Jesus presents a corollary to the truth presented in verse 37 in verses 44 and 64-65. What does this add to your understanding of election? If you’re a Christian how should this doctrine influence what you thank God for?
- v. What insight do you get about the Trinity in these verses?

f. **Friday:**

- i. Read John 6:41-60.
  1. After Jesus had walked on the water, we saw that the crowd had gone to Capernaum “seeking” Jesus where he began teaching about the Bread of Life. How had their attitude changed by verse 41?
  2. What caused them to grumble?
  3. Read Exodus 15:22-24, 17:3, and Numbers 14:2. How does John and Jesus in verse 43 use their grumbling to connect to the Israelites experience being fed by manna?
  4. What very important distinction did Jesus make between the manna and the Bread of Life?
- ii. What are you reminded of when you read verses 52-58 (see Matthew 26:26-29 and 1 Corinthians 11:23-26)? Why would the Jews have found this a particularly hard saying (see Leviticus 7:26, 17:12&14, 19:26, Deuteronomy 12:16 & 23-24, and 15:23)?

g. **Saturday:**

- i. Finish the week by again reading John 6 (the entire chapter).
- ii. What do the words Jesus speaks in verse 47 mean to you? Does it matter what we believe as long as we are sincere in our belief? (see John 3:16-18, Romans 10:9, 1 John 5:1&10, and James 2:19)?
- iii. Note the significance of verses 66 and 70-71. If even those who had seen Jesus and followed Him as He taught could abandon Him why should we not worry about our salvation (verses 37 and 39)?

4. **Application:**

- a. Many of Jesus’ disciples left him by the end of this chapter because “His teachings were difficult”. In our society, more and more people reject Jesus because “His teachings are difficult.” As Christians, we must accept “His teaching” (which we get through the Scriptures) as the perfect Word of God, without flaw or error. If we don’t like what He teaches it’s not the Bible that needs to change – it’s us!
- b. In response to Jesus’ message, some people left; others stayed and truly believed; but, like Judas, some stayed so they could realize some personal gain from Jesus. Many people turn to Jesus when it is convenient, and they can benefit. Others pretend to follow, going to church for the approval of others. We have only two choices for responding to Jesus—we either accept Him as Lord or we reject him. Have you accepted or rejected Christ?

5. **Prayer Points:**

- a. Adoration – Psalms 8:1 and 29:1-2
- b. Confession – Proverbs 28:13 and 1 John 1:8-10
- c. Thanksgiving – Psalms 95:1-2 and 100:4-5
- d. Supplications –Matthew 21:22 and John 16:19