

# **JESUS REALLY SATISFIES**

To start your time together, share the evidences of God's grace you have experienced this past week. Share and discuss: How have you been challenged through scripture and prayer this past week? Invite 1-2 individuals in your group to share one of the greatest challenges they have experienced in life this week. Have you shared the Gospel message with someone this week? If yes, share how it went. If no, what stops you?

#### **OPENING COMMENT**

Jesus has been working miracles and teaching with power, and the crowds are loving it. He can heal people! He can make bread and fish come from nowhere! But is that all Jesus is offering? Is Jesus only offering satisfaction for physical needs, or is he offering something much greater?

What was the truth or lesson that impressed you most from Sunday's sermon?

#### **OPEN YOUR BIBLE AND READ: John 6:22-34**

<sup>22</sup>On the next day the crowd that remained on the other side of the sea saw that there had been only one boat there, and that Jesus had not entered the boat with his disciples, but that his disciples had gone away alone. <sup>23</sup>Other boats from Tiberius came near the place where they had eaten the bread after the Lord had given thanks. <sup>24</sup>So when the crowd saw that Jesus was not there, nor his disciples, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum, seeking Jesus. <sup>25</sup>When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?" <sup>26</sup>Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you are seeking me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. <sup>27</sup>Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For on him



God the Father has set his seal. ... " with your bible together finish reading verses 28-34

## A. FEELING THE HUNGER (vv. 22-24)

- 1. Share a time when you experienced Jesus in an astounding way. What was it like? After that experience were you hungering for more, like the people in our text?
- 2. As people we long to be around greatness, don't we? There is euphoria, an excitement that comes with being near or witnessing great things. Why do you think that is?
- 3. What does the crowds' actions and attitudes say about them? What did they want from Jesus? How does Jesus handle the crowd?
- 4. Do you find that you only want to experience "the best" in life? Why do you think that is? Do you find that you can love the "performance" more than the "person"? Is it only about what you can get out of your experiences?
- 5. Think about and share about the activities you find yourself involved in. How do you use your time? What do you discover about yourself as you look at your "Hungers"?

## **B. EXPLORING THE HUNGER (vv.25-29)**

- Jesus lets the crowd explore their hunger; Jesus understood their intentions, but Jesus also knows their need. What are the two kinds of "food" Jesus mentions? What is the significance/difference between these two foods?
- 2. Notice how Jesus allows the crowd to explore their "Hunger"; he let them discover what he had to offer, which was far greater than their immediate need. Discuss what Jesus is trying to teach them in this passage. Can we earn it? Can we buy it? Why is what he is offering so important for them to understand for themselves? Also read Matthew 6:19-21 to aid in your discussion.
- 3. Think about when you go to Jesus through prayer, scripture reading or in your conversations about him with others: What do you search out Jesus for? How often do you spend time with Jesus?
- 4. How has being in a life group helped you when you've had faith questions? If you are long in the faith, how would you mentor a new believer on their journey? What advice would you give them when they ask similar questions that the crowd asked Jesus?

## C. SATISFYING THE HUNGER (vv. 30-34)

- 1. Was the crowd getting what Jesus was saying to them? How did they respond to Jesus? What did they keep looking for?
- 2. Have you ever heard people say "The problem with the church today is that we don't have enough miracles". Is that really the problem? or is it a heart problem? Do you look at/for the "gifts" over the "giver of the gifts"? Do you hunger for what Jesus offers more than you hunger for Jesus?
- 3. Read vv.32-33 together. What do you discover? What does it look like to hunger for the bread from God? What does it look like to hunger for Jesus and not just his gifts?
- 4. Discuss the following John Piper quote: "The critical question for our generation and for every generation - is this: If you could have heaven, with no sickness, and with all the friends you ever had on earth, and all the food you ever liked, and all the leisure activities you ever enjoyed, and all the natural beauties you ever saw, all the physical pleasures you ever tasted, and no human conflict or any natural disasters, could you be satisfied with heaven, if Christ were not there?" (from his book"God is the Gospel")

#### **SHARE & PRAY**

- Before praying together read John 6:29 & Colossians 3:1-4
- Pray over those circumstances in each other's lives that tend to have you walking in fear and can shake your faith. Pray for a spiritual hunger and praise God for those times when you hunger more for Jesus than other things. Pray that you will grow in your understanding of the Gospel message and that it will guide you in your Christian walk.
- Conclude by spending some time praying for one another, with the understanding that Jesus' greatest desire is to see us saved when we put our trust in Him. Pray for those in your life that are in need of a relationship with Jesus.