

John 6:26-35, 48-58, Daily Devotions

❑ Monday - Beware of a Mercenary Spirit.

John 6:26-27

“Jesus answered them and said, ‘Truly, truly, I say to you, you seek Me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate of the loaves and were filled. Do not work for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to eternal life’” (John 6:26-27). Many of the 5000 whom Jesus had fed (John 6:1-14) followed Him to the other side of the Sea of Galilee (John 6:24-25). Why? Because they wanted more free bread and Jesus had demonstrated that He could produce an unlimited supply. There is a mercenary spirit that we must all guard against which asks, “What can God give me to satisfy my physical desires?” Christian, “Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you” (Matt. 6:33) Read Matthew 6:25-33

❑ Tuesday - Christ's Seal of Approval.

John 6:27

At Jesus' baptism the Lord thundered from heaven, “This is my beloved Son in whom I am well-pleased” (Matt. 3:17). This was God's seal of approval upon His Son, the seal of authenticity, and the seal of authority of Jesus' ministry. Furthermore, the people saw the Holy Spirit descend upon Jesus as a visible emblem of that seal (Matt. 3:16). And so, here Jesus reminded the people that “on Him God the Father has set His seal” (John 6:27); and as a result, Jesus declared, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth” (Mt. 28:18). Read Ephesians 1:15-23

❑ Wednesday - The Work of Faith.

John 6:28-29

The people asked Jesus, “What shall we do, so that we may work the works of God?” Jesus answered and said to them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He has sent” (John 6:28-29). The people asked about the works of God (plural), but Christ directed them toward one work: faith. Faith is the work of God, for He is the One who gives faith (Rom. 12:3; Eph. 2:8), and He is the One who perfects it in us (Phil. 1:6). So then, faith is not a work of the flesh, but a fruit of the Spirit (Gal. 5:19-22). Nevertheless, you may enter into God's work of faith in you today, when you “live by faith” (Gal. 2:20, 3:11), “walk by faith” (2 Cor. 5:7), and “fight the good fight of faith” (1 Tim. 6:12). Read Hebrews 11

❑ Thursday - The Bread of Life.

John 6:32-51

Here in the gospel of John, chapter six, Jesus calls Himself, “true bread” (John 6:32), “the bread of life” (John 6:35, 48), “bread out of heaven” (John 6:32-33, 41, 50-51, 58), and “living bread” (John 6:50). What does it mean that Christ calls Himself “bread”? It means that He nourishes us, feeds us, sustains us. He is Jehovah Jireh (Gen. 22:14), the God who provides for the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of His people (Phil. 4:19). Confess and reaffirm your absolute dependence on Christ today. Read Psalm 54:4

❑ Friday - Our Daily Bread.

John 6:32-51

Jesus compared Himself to the manna that sustained Israel for forty years in the wilderness (John 6:32). But He made this distinction, “Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died” (John 6:49), but, “I am the living bread that came down out of heaven; if anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever” (John 6:51). Just as bread (food) is necessary for mortal life, Jesus is essential for eternal life. Every morning new manna had to be gathered, for it lasted only one day (Ex. 16:4). So also Christ must be our daily bread. The soul that sups on Christ and His Word but once a week will be gaunt and emaciated. As a regular diet of food sustains the body, so Christ's Word, taken at regular intervals, is necessary for spiritual growth and strength. Jesus has made known the secret to spiritual success, “Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God” (Matt. 4:4). Bread is food for the body, but Jesus and His Word are food for the soul. Read Psalm 1:1-3