

## JOHN 6B (6:22-40) Study (NLT) "PRIORITY" December 27, 2009 Vineyard Church • Great Falls MT.

• **THE MAIN POINT:** What is the main priority for human kind made in the very image of God—whom God calls “my children” and tell us to call Him “Father?” What is the main priority for us who are an “embodied spirit?” It is to have bread for our spirits so that our spirit lives. When our spirit lives, death is no more. When our spirit lives, we can come home to Father God. The Son of God became a son of mankind to take away the sin that was killing the spirit—to destroy the power of death by rising from it—and impart His spiritual life to us. Therefore, the main priority of our life is Jesus—“THE TRUE BREAD OF GOD WHO COMES DOWN FROM HEAVEN AND GIVES LIFE TO THE WORLD.” 6:33

**6:22–27** Jesus healed the sick and he had just fed 5,000 men plus women and children with a little boy’s lunch of 5 loaves and 2 fishes. So there were often enough people to fill a football stadium following him or trying to figure out where he was. In this case, Jesus had crossed the Sea of Galilee and come to \_\_\_\_\_. Some were already there \_\_\_\_\_ to see Jesus. Others, who had been part of the 5,000 fed, had gotten into \_\_\_\_\_ and had come looking for him. Jesus tells them that they are after him not because he did a miraculous \_\_\_\_\_ that demonstrated that a person was before them who could transform their whole life and eternal destiny. Jesus said “*You shouldn’t be so \_\_\_\_\_ about \_\_\_\_\_ things like food. Spend your energy seeking the \_\_\_\_\_ life that I the Son of \_\_\_\_\_ can give you. For the Father has sent me for that very \_\_\_\_\_.*”

**CONCERNED:** There comes a time for each person where, even though they have food to eat and put in their stomach, that it will no longer keep them alive. Those who believe that there will be life after this life think about this. What can they eat that will keep their spirit/soul/ personal identity alive beyond the perishing of their physical bodies. Jesus tells us that He can. Those who have a spirit/soul/ personal identity relationship with Him will partake of the life that is in him—eternal life. “*Life itself was in Him, and this life gives light (the same creative energy that caused the world to come into being) to everyone.*” John 1:4  
The heart of Christian faith and hope is that Jesus demonstrated that life (physical life) continues after this life by the resurrection of His own body.

**PERISHABLE THINGS:** Those who come to Jesus for eternal life live their earthly life differently. They change their priorities. They believe Jesus when he says that greed (for the things of this earth) is worshiping an alternate god. “*No one can serve two masters... You cannot serve both God and money.*” Matthew 6:24 They try to make their life, their money, time, and energy a gift to God and people. And they, with some fear, give up the security that money and the life it buys in this world - to trust God to take care of earthly needs.

• “*So don’t worry about having enough food or drink or clothing. Why be like the pagans who are so deeply concerned about these things? Your Heavenly Father already knows all your needs, and he will give you all you need from day to day if you live for him and make the Kingdom of God your primary concern.*” Matthew 6:31–33

**6:28–32** Jesus healed and fed and rescued people from danger. But He also “*preached Good News to the poor (in spirit – the spiritually hungry).*” Luke 4:18 He had connected with some and they asked, “*What does \_\_\_\_\_ want us to do?*” Jesus told them, “*This is what God wants you to do: Believe in the one he has sent.*” Their response is to say that they might be interested but they want to know that if they \_\_\_\_\_ in him—if they transfer their trust from the way the world takes care of them ---to him, how can they be sure that they will be taken care of. One of them said (to paraphrase) “*You know, Lord, when our ancestors risked following God out of Egypt and through the \_\_\_\_\_ to the Promised Land, God fed them every day with a bread from \_\_\_\_\_.* It literally fell from the skies every day.

**MANNA:** There was not enough food in the desert to feed a million plus people - men women and children. So God fed Israel as they pilgrimaged from Egypt to Canaan with bread from heaven. “*When the dew disappeared later in the morning, thin flakes, white like frost, covered the ground. The Israelites were puzzled when they saw it. “What is it?” they asked. Exodus 16:13–36* The word for “what is it” is “manna.” It tasted like coriander seed and honey.

6:32–41 Jesus makes it clear that it was the \_\_\_\_\_ who gave the food in the wilderness. It is the \_\_\_\_\_ who offers them the \_\_\_\_\_ bread from heaven (speaking of Himself) which puts life into the human spirit that will keep them alive when the stomach fails. The people say, “*Give us that bread \_\_\_\_\_ of our lives. Jesus tells them that this bread is a person. “I \_\_\_\_\_ the bread of life.” They get this bread though a relationship with Him. Believe in \_\_\_\_\_. He looks over the crowd and says some of you will \_\_\_\_\_ me and some of you will \_\_\_\_\_ to me. He promises that he will never \_\_\_\_\_ anyone whom the Father has given to him and comes. Why do people go to churches? Some go for fellowship, for moral training for their children, because it is good for business. Others go because they want eternal life with God. That’s the \_\_\_\_\_ of God. He wants people to come. And He sent Jesus to get them. Jesus says that he is not going to \_\_\_\_\_ even one but raise them to eternal life at the \_\_\_\_\_.*”

**TRUE:** Jesus said that he was the TRUE bread. The world REAL maybe means more to us. Real as opposed to counterfeit, to fake, to useless. We’ll die eating wheat bread.

**I AM:** The Greek phrase here “I AM” points to the Hebrew word Yahweh (Jehovah), the name for the Father God—the Name He called himself in speaking to Moses. (Exodus 3.14) This is the first of seven “I AM’s” that Jesus speaks. Martin Buber, a

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Jewish scholar, says the word may best be translated into English as "I will be there." (for you)

NEVER HUNGER OR THIRST: Jesus has commanded us to celebrate the Holy Communion to remind ourselves that His bread and drink in the end is the life for the physical body which can't be kept alive with breads of earth. But it is more than a reminder. It is an IMPARTATION of His Spirit into our spirit -- a bread for our soul.

• *"For this is what the Lord Himself said and I pass it on to you just as I received it. On the night when he was betrayed, the Lord Jesus took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same manner he took the cup of wine after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant between God and you, sealed by the shedding of my blood. Do this in remembrance of me as often as you drink it." I Corinthians 11:23-25*

FATHER'S WILL: *"For it is my Father's will that all who see His Son and believe in Him should have eternal life—that I should raise them at the last day."* (V40) God wants His children in his House. That is the purpose in sending His Son to make a way for the children to come home. We are not pigs. Socrates said that he would rather be the lowest man than the highest pig. Bob Harrington said, "I am not a garbage can with a hairy lid but a temple of the Holy Ghost." The Father says, I created humanity in my image for my pleasure." (Genesis 1:26, Revelation 4:11)

**What Does This Scripture Say To You?** \_\_\_\_\_