SMITH FOR CHRIST · TEACHING THE WORD · WATCHING THE TIMES

GROUP WORKSHEET · OBSERVE · INTERPRET · APPLY

John 6

The Bread of Life

NAME _____ DATE _____

KEY VERSE · JOHN 6:35 · NASB

"Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; he who comes to Me will not hunger, and he who believes in Me will never thirst."

The longest chapter in John's Gospel: five thousand fed, a storm on the lake, a long sermon in a synagogue, and a crowd that walks away. Watch how quickly the crowd's interest in bread turns into offense at Jesus.

BEFORE YOU ANSWER

1. Read John 6 straight through, then a second time slowly with a pen.
2. Mark what you see: God · commands · repeated words · sin / warnings · promises · time / place.
3. Answer from the text first. Write the verse number beside every answer.

COUNT THE KEY WORDS

Find each word in John 6. Tally it and note the verses. What does John keep coming back to?

WORD	HOW MANY?	VERSES
bread		
eat / eats / ate		
life		
believe / believes / believed		
heaven		
come / comes		

JOHN 6:1–15 The Feeding

1 OBSERVE

What question does Jesus ask Philip, and why does He ask it (6:5–6)? What does Philip answer (6:7)?

2 OBSERVE

What does Andrew find, what does Jesus do with it, and how much is left over (6:9–13)?

3 INTERPRET

The crowd wanted to take Him by force to make Him king (6:15). Why did He withdraw?

4 APPLY

Philip counted the money; Andrew brought what little there was. What small thing do you have that you need to put in Jesus' hands?

JOHN 6:16–21 The Storm

5 OBSERVE

What were the conditions on the lake, and what did the disciples see (6:18–19)? What did Jesus say (6:20)?

6 INTERPRET

Read Job 9:8 and Exodus 3:14. Why does Sproul hear the divine name in "It is I"?

JOHN 6:22–40 The Bread from Heaven

7 OBSERVE

Why, according to Jesus, was the crowd looking for Him (6:26)? What does He tell them not to work for (6:27)?

8 OBSERVE

The crowd asks what work they must do. What is Jesus' answer (6:28–29)?

9 OBSERVE

What does Jesus claim in 6:35, and what two promises come with it?

10 WEIGH THE TEACHERS

Sproul calls 6:37 "the perseverance of the saints with a vengeance." Spurgeon says "The King's highway is for all." What does each half of 6:37 promise?

11 APPLY

Are you seeking Jesus mainly for what He can give you, the "loaves," or for Himself?

JOHN 6:41–59 Drawn and Fed

12 OBSERVE

Why did the Jews grumble (6:41–42)? What does Jesus say no one can do unless the Father draws him (6:44)?

13 WEIGH THE TEACHERS

Sproul reads "draws" (6:44) as compel; Guzik reads "alluring, not dragging." Spurgeon: "Do not imagine that any man will go to heaven kicking and struggling all the way against the hand that draws him." Where do they agree?

14 INTERPRET

Compare 6:47 and 6:54. What do both promise, and what does that tell you about "eating His flesh"?

JOHN 6:60–71 The Sifting

15 OBSERVE

What do many disciples say, and what do they do (6:60, 66)?

16 INTERPRET

Jesus says "the flesh profits nothing" (6:63). He does not mean His own flesh, which He just gave for the world. What does He mean?

17 OBSERVE

What does Jesus ask the Twelve, and how does Peter answer (6:67–69)?

18 APPLY

When Jesus says something hard, what are your options? Write Peter's answer in your own words.

WORD STUDY The Greek behind the English

19 WORD *helkō* · G1670 · to draw, to drag

The same verb is used in 12:32 ("will draw all men") and 21:6, 11 (hauling a net). What does that range of uses suggest about God's drawing?

20 WORD *ekballō* · G1544 · to cast out

In 6:37 Jesus says He will "certainly not" cast out the one who comes. Why does the double negative matter for a man afraid he has gone too far?

PUT IT TOGETHER The chapter as a whole

The theme. In one or two sentences of your own, what is John 6 about?

Jesus. What does this chapter show you about who Jesus is that you want to remember?

This week. What one thing will you do because of this chapter, and which brother will you tell?

Around the table. Prayer requests and what the other men saw that you missed.