

Monday

Read John 6:22-40

The people, knowing that Jesus is referring to himself as the one that is going to give this food ask him what sign he will do (this, right after he fed thousands of people after starting with just a little bit of bread and fish). They say to Jesus, “Our fathers ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’” They are relying on their history to inform their present. Jesus responds, “Truly, truly, I say to you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but my Father gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.”

Jesus totally alters their demand for divine proof by flipping their demand on its head. He says their sentence has the wrong subject (Moses), the wrong verb tense (gave), the wrong direct object (bread out of heaven), and the wrong indirect object (to you). Simply because they cited Scripture doesn’t mean they are correct. Jesus tells them in saying, “He (Moses) gave them bread from heaven to eat,” that they have gotten it all wrong. They should know instead that it is the Father who is giving them the true bread from heaven which gives life to the whole world.

- God is the bread giver, not Moses (or anyone other than God).
- God continues to give, it wasn’t just something that happened in the past.
- The true bread from heaven isn’t simply a bit of food, but Jesus Christ, the Son of God.
- This true bread isn’t just given to the Hebrew people, but to the whole world.

God is giving you the bread that will not perish. God continues to give this bread. The true bread God is giving you is Jesus Christ. This bread is offered to all. Have a blessed Monday!

Tuesday

Read Matthew 13:33

What is Jesus saying by describing the kingdom of heaven like this? How have you seen the kingdom like this in your own life, the church, and the world?

Wednesday

Read John 15:1-17

Each day a breadmaker tends to their levain (or starter) they throw away the vast majority of it and feed it again. The more the levain goes through the process of feeding and reducing the more flavorful and potent it becomes. A levain refined over time is better and produces tastier and more distinctive bread.

Your life with Jesus is similar. To fulfill God’s plan for you, you cannot remain as you are. You must continually be refined. You can’t remain the exact same and hope to be better. As Jesus says in John 15, you must be pruned so more and better fruit can be produced.

Are you in a season of pruning right now? Are you resisting it? How can you in prayer and in your attitude welcome God’s pruning? If you are not in a season of pruning but are growing fruit, what is that fruit? What are you doing to celebrate that harvest for God’s Kingdom?

Thursday

Read John 6:22-40

If we want to never be hungry and never thirst, we need to receive what Jesus is giving us. Jesus is giving us himself. If we are truly receiving what Jesus is feeding us, we’ll experience changes that might be painful but necessary, because our old selves are going away and our new selves are taking over. Jesus is a fixed menu, not a buffet. Jesus feeds us what we need, not what we want to pick around and choose. We are all guilty of being picky eaters in this regard. Yet to really live in the presence of Jesus and for us to be the presence of Jesus in our hearts, homes, neighborhoods, communities, nation, and world, we need to feed on all of what Jesus is giving us.

Are you willing to receive what Jesus is feeding you? Are you willing to let it change you? Are you willing to change your mind/heart/spirit about something important because Jesus has fed you and you have changed? Are you willing to let Jesus feed you what you need for today and not remember a meal from years or decades ago and rely on that meal?

Friday – please read Acts 3 in preparation for Sunday worship.