



John 6:1-71 MSG After this, Jesus went across the Sea of Galilee (some call it Tiberias). (2) A huge crowd followed him, attracted by the miracles they had seen him do among the sick. (3) When he got to the other side, he climbed a hill and sat down, surrounded by his disciples. (4) It was nearly time for the Feast of Passover, kept annually by the Jews. (5) When Jesus looked out and saw that a large crowd had arrived, he said to Philip, "Where can we buy bread to feed these people?" (6) He said this to stretch Philip's faith. He already knew what he was going to do. (7) Philip answered, "Two hundred silver pieces wouldn't be enough to buy bread for each person to get a piece." (8) One of the disciples--it was Andrew, brother to Simon Peter--said, (9) "There's a little boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But that's a drop in the bucket for a crowd like this." (10) Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." There was a nice carpet of green grass in this place. They sat down, about five thousand of them. (11) Then Jesus took the bread and, having given thanks, gave it to those who were seated. He did the same with the fish. All ate as much as they wanted. (12) When the people had eaten their fill, he said to his disciples, "Gather the leftovers so nothing is wasted." (13) They went to work and filled twelve large baskets with leftovers from the five barley loaves. (14) The people realized that God was at work among them in what Jesus had just done. They said, "This is the Prophet for sure, God's Prophet right here in Galilee!" (15) Jesus saw that in their enthusiasm, they were about to grab him and make him king, so he slipped off and went back up the mountain to be by himself. (16) In the evening his disciples went down to the sea, (17) got in the boat, and headed back across the water to Capernaum. It had grown quite dark and Jesus had not yet returned. (18) A huge wind blew up, churning the sea. (19) They were maybe three or four miles out when they saw Jesus walking on the sea, quite near the boat. They were scared senseless, (20) but he reassured them, "It's me. It's all right. Don't be afraid." (21) So

not a fan.

- v.1 After what?
- v.2 Why did the crowd follow Jesus?
How big was the crowd?
How was crowd control handled?
- v.3 What does it mean, "surrounded by his disciples"?
How would you label those who were not disciples?
- v.5 For the record: How aware was Jesus of the size of the crowd?

vs. 11-12 How satisfied were the people?

vs.14 To what extent was there a religious / spiritual work taking place in the crowd?

vs.15 Describe the implications you can derive from this verse.

THE DISCIPLES SET SAIL TO CAPERNAUM IN STORM-TOSSED SEAS

JESUS WALK ON THE WATER TO THE BOAT AND THE BOAT IMMEDIATELY REACHED THE DESTINATION

they took him on board. In no time they reached land--the exact spot they were headed to. (22) The next day the crowd that was left behind realized that there had been only one boat, and that Jesus had not gotten into it with his disciples. They had seen them go off without him. (23) By now boats from Tiberias had pulled up near where they had eaten the bread blessed by the Master. (24) So when the crowd realized he was gone and wasn't coming back, they piled into the Tiberias boats and headed for Capernaum, looking for Jesus. (25) When they found him back across the sea, they said, "Rabbi, when did you get here?" (26) Jesus answered, "You've come looking for me not because you saw God in my actions but because I fed you, filled your stomachs--and for free. (27) "Don't waste your energy striving for perishable food like that. Work for the food that sticks with you, food that nourishes your lasting life, food the Son of Man provides. He and what he does are guaranteed by God the Father to last." (28) To that they said, "Well, what do we do then to get in on God's works?" (29) Jesus said, "Throw your lot in with the One that God has sent. That kind of a commitment gets you in on God's works." (30) They waffled: "Why don't you give us a clue about who you are, just a hint of what's going on? When we see what's up, we'll commit ourselves. Show us what you can do. (31) Moses fed our ancestors with bread in the desert. It says so in the Scriptures: 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'" (32) Jesus responded, "The real significance of that Scripture is not that Moses gave you bread from heaven but that my Father is right now offering you bread from heaven, the real bread. (33) The Bread of God came down out of heaven and is giving life to the world." (34) They jumped at that: "Master, give us this bread, now and forever!" (35) Jesus said, "I am the Bread of Life. The person who aligns with me hungers no more and thirsts no more, ever. (36) I have told you this explicitly because even though you have seen me in action, you don't really believe me. ...

(59) He said these things while teaching in the meeting place in Capernaum. (60) Many among his disciples heard this and said, "This is tough teaching, too tough to swallow."

THE CROWDS REALIZE THAT JESUS AND THE DISCIPLES LEFT OVERNIGHT

SO, NOW, JESUS HAS SOME SEEKERS. A LOT OF THEM!

v.26 How seeker sensitive is Jesus?
Can you justify his actions?

SUMMARIZE THE MAIN POINTS JESUS IS TRYING TO GET ACROSS IN VS. 27-28

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v.29 What was Jesus looking for?

v.30-31 what was the response from this crowd?

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VS 31-33 JESUS GETS VERY SPIRITUAL IN HIS ANSWER

v.34 Describe the crowd's response to Jesus' words

v.36 What is Jesus pushing for?

IN THESE INTERVENING VERSES (37-58) JESUS PREACHES ONE OF HIS MOST DEMANDING SERMONS ON RECORD

For the record- Who is he preaching to?
v.60-61 What is the crowd's response?
Why?

(61) Jesus sensed that his disciples were having a hard time with this and said, "Does this throw you completely? ...

John 6:61 NIV Aware that his disciples were grumbling about this, Jesus said to them, "Does this offend you?"

(66) After this a lot of his disciples left. They no longer wanted to be associated with him.

(67) Then Jesus gave the Twelve their chance: "Do you also want to leave?" (68) Peter replied, "Master, to whom would we go? You have the words of real life, eternal life. (69) We've already committed ourselves, confident that you are the Holy One of God."

v.61 What is the disciple's response? Why?

Vs. 62-65 JESUS NOW REEMPHASIZES HIS SERMON AND INTENSIFIES HIS DEMANDS.

v.66 In your experience, how many times have you known this behavior to be true of a DISCIPLE? How about with a FAN?

v.67-69

Describe a FAN of Jesus Christ

Jesus is not the least bit interested in FANS. He does not allow fans to remain fans. He pushes them [forces the issue] to either leave or to become true disciples.

What are some ways Jesus may force the issue in a fan's life?

Jesus' ministry may have attracted crowds, but that was not his goal. His goal was to reduce crowds of fans down to those who would commit to be followers – real disciples of Jesus Christ.

Over the next few weeks we will follow Jesus as he presents us with the challenge to stop following him as a fan and to completely, in all areas of our life, follow him as a disciple.