



Grab Gather Grow

Week of Sunday, July 29, 2018

“Innovations in Eating”

Grab this study, gather a few people,
and grow in faith

SCRIPTURE: John 6:24-35
(read over the scripture together)

John 6:24-35

When the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they got into the boats and came to Capernaum looking for Jesus. When they found him on the other side of the lake, they asked him,

“Rabbi, when did you get here?”

Jesus replied, “I assure you that you are looking for me not because you saw miraculous signs but because you ate all the food you wanted. Don’t work for the food that doesn’t last but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Human

One will give you. God the Father has confirmed him as his agent to give life.”

They asked, “What must we do in order to accomplish what God requires?”

Jesus replied, “This is what God requires, that you believe in him whom God sent.”

They asked, “What miraculous sign will you do, that we can see and believe you?”

What will you do? Our ancestors ate manna in the wilderness, just as it is written, *He gave them bread from heaven to eat.*” Jesus told them, “I assure you, it wasn’t Moses who gave the bread from heaven to you, but my Father gives you the true bread from heaven. The bread of God is the one who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.”

They said, “Sir, give us this bread all the time!”

Jesus replied, “I am the bread of life.

Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

OPENING PRAYER

Merciful God, with open hearts, we long to live in your grace.

Speak to us with patience and perseverance, with wisdom and mercy, that we may answer your call and mend our ways. Walk with us and teach us your love, that we might be signs of your grace. Let us be gentle with one another, no matter the activity, the issue or the subject. Guide us in our thoughts and actions so the we are bearers of Jesus’ love to each other and the world. Our hope is in you, O God. Amen.

DISCUSSION (a few of the following)

Discuss the following statement from Pastor’s Rich’s message: Over the centuries, there have been many innovations in eating, from food delivery to salad-making robots. But all of this earthly food eventually spoils; it is “the food that perishes” (v. 27). None of it endures for eternal life. Only by believing in Jesus can we receive the bread of God which gives life to the world, both universally and personally. Today, we join the crowd around Jesus in saying, “Sir, give us this bread always” (v. 34). And we don’t have to use a telephone or an app to make the request.

How is bread life? Discuss your favorite breads and how breaking it builds community.

Discuss Holy Communion. When you walk away from Christ’s Table how do you share the grace of God with all you meet? How do you think one can share grace with others?

Read over John 6:24-35. In the opening scene of John 6 (v. 1-13), Jesus performed a phenomenal sign when he fed the 5,000. To their credit, the people realized to some extent the import of this deed and recognized that Jesus was no

ordinary individual. Yet, lacking a full understanding of his mission, the crowd inappropriately attempted to make him king (vv. 14-15). In contrast, Jesus' disciples failed to grasp the sign's implications. Even after filling 12 baskets with leftovers, they were terrified when they saw him walking on the water (vv. 16-21). But ultimately, both groups failed to comprehend that the one who had fed them was the bread of life, the bread from heaven. How do we fail to see Jesus as the bread of life?

SERVE

Our Change for Change Offering next Sunday is for our SUNNY. Can your gathering raise funds for service of BUMC? Last Summer we served over 10,000 meals and it looks like we will serve even more this summer. Save your change, raise some funds and look below for times you can volunteer as a gathering to serve at SUNNY!

Could your Gathering volunteer to help serve through ...

Loaves and Fishes. Go to <http://www.loavesandfishesmn.org/volunteer.html> and sign up to volunteer for a few meals this summer. Make sure you sign up for the BUMC site.

SUNNY—Monday, Wednesday, Friday Volunteers needed 10:30am-1:30pm

Join us as a **Gather Group**, form a group at work, your family, your friends or neighbors.

Call the church office at 763-561-1684 and sign up for a few dates this summer.

Grab some **"Homeless Kits"** from Church and hand a few out this week. You are free to add some cash or other items to the bags if you would like.



PRAYING OUR WAY FORWARD



We are One in Christ

Join us for A Way Forward Forum.

Talking about the UMC and our relationship with the LGBTQ community

Attend a forum on July 31st at 10am or 7pm or August 2nd at 10am or 7pm



FAITH

share read talk pray bless



AT HOME THIS WEEK

Share your High and Low of the day; read the daily scripture; talk about it; pray about each others highs and lows, and at the end of the day, bless each other with the blessing below or one of your own.

SUNDAY: John 6:24-35

MONDAY: John 6:1-13

TUESDAY: John 6:27

WEDNESDAY: John 6:31

THURSDAY: John 6:35

FRIDAY: Psalm 51:1-12

BLESSING: "Jesus, give us this bread always."