

John 6: When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you come here?" Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you are seeking me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. Do not labor for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give to you.

I know that it does not matter to most of you...but school begins in less than 2 weeks!!!

In years past, some students would walk into the classroom and sit there like a bump on a log. When are we ever going to use this in real life? they ask. They have a difficult time understanding what education is all about.

Other students try to comprehend what is being said in the classroom, but they cannot. And when this happens, they do not ask questions or do a little research themselves to help them with insight. They leave the classroom with only a little more knowledge than when they entered.

In John 6, Jesus feeds the crowds, sends the disciples off across the lake, dismisses the crowds and then prays. He then walks across the sea (which is why no one saw Him walking to the other side). The people look for Him hoping that He would feed them (Bread King) and heal their sick (Miracle King).

So, it comes as no surprise that when the crowds do finally catch up to Jesus, they have no idea what He was teaching. Even the disciples still missed the point.

Like the manna centuries before, the people only saw bread which will go through the entire digestive system and eventually leave them. It satisfied their hunger for a few hours and did not last. Earthly bread is a disappointment.

Jesus had bread to offer them and us today as well. It is not the delicious warm bread with sweet butter spread on it; bread that will come and go. Rather, it is bread that will last a lifetime, an eternal lifetime. Jesus is offering up a bread, from God Himself, that will sustain our spiritual bodies for all eternity. Many people skip church and Bible Study, daily devotions and prayer, because I know all I need to know and when am I going to use it in real life anyway?

The more we partake from the Bread of Life, the more we understand the importance of it in our daily lives. The more we have, the more we want. It is not greed that moves us, it is the God-given desire of a need that encourages us to take as much as we can from the freely given gift from God.

When we come to church it is not for us to give and give and give. Rather, it is a time and place for us to receive. We receive the promised strength, faith, and comfort that God gives to us through the life, death and resurrection of our Savior and the resurrection He offers us freely.