

Sermon or Lesson: John 6:35-40 (NIV based)

[Lesson Questions included]

TITLE: Benefits of Eating The Eternal Bread

INTRO: For those of us who are parents, perhaps when your child was small, he or she loved to be given horsey rides on your back with you on your hands and knees. Did you quickly discover that after the first ride, your child always wanted more and was never satisfied, seeking to be satisfied with fun in life?

In life, we try things like pleasure, drugs, alcohol, money, sex, relationships, good grades, entertainment, or food but we are never satisfied. We always want more.

TRANSITION: There is only one thing that will permanently fill and satisfy our spiritual and emotional hunger -- the person of Jesus Christ -- the eternal Bread of Life. To be spiritually fed, we need to eat the eternal bread.

READ: John 6:35-36

[Lesson Question: What is the main principle in verses 35-36 and what are its features, both stated and implied?]

SECTION POINT: Jesus, the Eternal Bread Of Life, fills us.

v.35 Jesus "is the bread of life":

- - He is the source for spiritual life.
- - He is the source for sustaining spiritual well-being.

v.35 We can "come" to Jesus:

- - We can come with a spiritual need we want filled.
- - This implies Jesus is accessible.
- - He is available.
- - He is approachable.
- - He is attentive.
- - He is ready.
- - He is amicably open - our spiritual need is not an annoyance or inconvenience for Him.
- - He is offering; this is an invitation.
- - He is willing.
- - He is eager.
- - But we need to take the initiative - we come to Him.

v.35 We "will never go hungry" and "never be thirsty":

- - Jesus will never fail or refuse to satisfy our spiritual hunger and thirst.
- - He is more than capable of satisfying our every spiritual hunger, to the fullest, even when we want more.

v.35 But there is a condition - that we must “believe in [Him]”:

- - Believing in Jesus is not just knowing about Him. (v.36)
 - - Believing in Jesus is not getting a miracle from Him as proof in order to be convinced. (see vv.30-33)
 - - Believing in Jesus is not merely “seeing” and hearing from Him. (v.36)
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READ: John 6:37-39

[Lesson Question: What is the main principle in verses 37-39 and what are its features, both stated and implied?]

SECTION POINT: Jesus, the Eternal Bread Of Life, **secures** us.

v.37 Jesus “will never drive away” those who believe in Him:

- - He will never reject us.
- - He will never change His mind and turn against us.

v.39 Jesus “will lose none of all that [the Father] has given [Him]”:

- - We will never be cut off or removed from Him.
- - This implies Jesus has and uses intrinsic power to keep and secure us in His possession.

v.38 Jesus has come down from heaven to accomplish this securing:

- - Jesus has left heaven to come to Earth with a purpose to accomplish.
 - - His purpose or mission is to accomplish or fulfill what needs to be done in order to eternally secure the final destination of those whom the Father has given to believe in Him. (v.39)
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READ: John 6:40

[Lesson Question: What is the main principle in verse 40 and what are its features, both stated and implied?]

SECTION POINT: Jesus, the Eternal Bread Of Life, **revives** us.

v.40 Jesus “will raise us up at the last day”:

- - Jesus further states that He has intrinsic power to “raise [us] up” or revive us bodily from the dead.
- - In effect, Jesus is declaring here that He will one day cause our dead bodies to be revived back to life, our conscious living spirit essence will be placed back into our bodies, and both will be functioning properly in a reunited state like we currently are now.

v.40 We “shall have eternal life”:

- - Going even beyond being resurrected from the dead on that day, Jesus will give us eternal life, guaranteeing that our revival will be permanent, forever thereafter.

v.40 Being given eternal life conditionally applies only to those who both:

- - “look” on Jesus - “seeing, discerning, acknowledging,” and assessing Him, (from Strong’s #2334)

- - and “believe” in [Jesus], “having faith and trust” in Him. (from Strong’s #4100)

- - This implies we who believe will be raised from the dead in a similar fashion as Jesus was after His death on the cross when He rose from the dead on the third day.

- - Jesus is alluding to the reality that God resolved the problem of having to punish us eternally for our sins by sending His Son Jesus to “come down from heaven” (v.38), as the perfect sinless God-man, and be sacrificed on the cross in payment for the sins of those who believe in Him. (see v.51)

- - Thus, Jesus “is the bread that came down from heaven” to revive spiritually by “giving eternal life” to those who believe. (vv.35,38,40,41,33)

BIG IDEA: There is only one thing that will permanently fill and satisfy your spiritual and emotional hunger -- the person of Jesus Christ -- the eternal Bread of Life. To be eternally fed, you need to eat the eternal bread.

APPLICATION:

- - Do you hunger spiritually?

- - Are you spiritually empty?

- - Do you have a void in your life?

- - Are you tired of life or are not satisfied with life?

- - Do you have a longing or craving for something more in life, for meaning, purpose, satisfaction, fulfillment?

- - Have you been trying various things to satisfy you, but you have been unsuccessful in finding anything that truly satisfies you long-term?

- - Do you have uncertainty about your life in the eternal future?

- - From the verse in Romans 3:23, “for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God”, it is established by God that your sins separate you from Him and thus are deserving of eternal punishment.

- - But it is also established by God that if you “look to the Son and believe in Him” (v.40), how He gave His life (v.33) on the cross in payment for your sins, then you “shall have eternal life” (v.40).

- - Maybe, you are ready right now to, in a sense, eat of the eternal Bread of Life, Jesus

- to come to Him and believe in Him. (v.35)

- - If you are, you can tell Father God right now by honestly and earnestly praying this prayer:

“Dear Father God, I know that because of my sin, I am separated from you and deserve eternal punishment. Please forgive me of my sins. Right now, I come to your perfect Son Jesus and believe in Him, that Jesus died on the cross for my sins, rose from the dead, and took the punishment for my sins so that I may have eternal life. Thank you, Jesus, for right now becoming my Bread Of Life eternally. Amen.”

Works Cited:

Bible. “The Holy Bible: New International Version.” *The Bible Library CD-ROM*. Oklahoma City, OK: Ellis Enterprises, 1988.

“Strong's Greek Dictionary”. *The Bible Library CD-ROM*. Oklahoma City, OK: Ellis Enterprises, 1988.

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File name: John6_35-40-SermonOrLesson.____ (.htm, .doc, .pdf)
Translation used: NIV, quoted or referred to in various places within this document
Source: www.BelieverAssist.com
Updated: August 2, 2016