

The Gospel of John Part 28: Jesus's Model for the Christian Witness (Part 1 and 2)

John 6:22-36



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On the next day, the crowd which stood on the other side of the sea saw that there was no other small boat there, except one, and that Jesus had not entered with His disciples

into the boat, but that His disciples had gone away alone. 23 Other small boats came from Tiberias near to the place where they ate the bread after the Lord had given thanks. 24 So when the crowd saw that Jesus was not there, nor His disciples, they themselves got into the small boats, and came to Capernaum seeking Jesus. 25 And when they found Him on the other side of the sea, they said to Him, "Rabbi, when did You come here?" 26 Jesus answered them and said, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you seek Me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate of the loaves and were filled. 27 Do not work for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give to you, for on Him the Father, God, set His seal." 28 Therefore they said to Him, "What should we do, so that we may work the works of God?" 29 Jesus answered and said to them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He has sent." 30 So they said to Him, "What then do You do for a sign so that we may see, and believe You? What work do You perform? 31 Our fathers ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'" 32 Jesus then said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, Moses has not given you the bread from heaven, but My Father gives you the true bread from heaven. 33 For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." 34 Then they said to Him, "Lord, always give us this bread." 35 Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. He

who comes to Me will never hunger, and he who believes in Me will never thirst. 36 But I said to you that you have seen Me, and yet do not believe.

1) Confusion About Jesus Should Be Answered with Correction from Truth.

Jesus told the crowd that their motives for seeking Him were wrong and corrected their confusion with the truth about Him. The lost who are seeking Christ may be confused and driven by the wrong motivations. Only the truth concerning Christ can expose the foolishness of the human heart. Jesus promises eternal life and not a better life filled with material things. The Christian experience can be a life lived with joy and abundance, but we are to seek first the kingdom and His righteousness, then all these things will be added to us. As followers of Christ, we are to bring correction to the lost who may be confused about why they are seeking Jesus.

2) Curiosity About Jesus Should be Answered with Clarity of Faith. Jesus told the crowd that the only thing God requires from them to be given eternal life is to believe in Him. The crowd was curious as to what works they must do to please God. Many today are curious about Jesus and believe their good works will be enough to please God. But Jesus brings clarity among the crowds curiosity with a simple statement about faith; believe in Him. The only works that God requires for anyone to enter heaven are the works that have already been done by Jesus. As followers of Christ, we are to bring clarity about faith to the lost who may be curious about what they must do to please God.

3) Cynicism About Jesus Should be Answered with a Call to Believe. Jesus told the crowd that He is the bread of life and gives life to the world. The crowd was cynical about Jesus's identity. They had questions and demanded that He prove to them who He was. But Jesus answered their questions with spiritual truths and called them to believe in Him. The lost today may be skeptical about who Jesus is and hesitant to trust in Him. As followers of Christ we should be ready to address the questions of the skeptic as a way to reveal the truth about who Jesus is. In the end, it is the call to believe that even a cynical seeker must hear if they are to find forgiveness of sins and eternal life in the name of Jesus.