

The Gospel of John Part 30: The Draw of God

John 6:41-47



*John 6:41-47
Therefore the
Jews were
grumbling
about Him,
because He
said, "I am the
bread that
came down
from heaven."
42 They were
saying, "Is not
this Jesus, the*

son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How does He now say, 'I have come down from heaven'?" 43 Jesus answered and said to them, "Stop grumbling among yourselves. 44 No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up on the last day. 45 It is written in the prophets, 'And they shall all be taught by God.' Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to Me. 46 Not that anyone has seen the Father, except the One who is from God; He has seen the Father. 47 Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes has eternal life.

The draw of God is the initiative of God making the first move to bring the lost to a knowledge of truth. Jesus tells us that this draw is accomplished through both hearing and learning. In "hearing," God draws the lost to Christ through the Christian's confession. That means God has partnered with humanity to spread the Gospel as part of His work of drawing the lost to Jesus. In "learning," God draws the lost to Christ through the Spirit's conviction. God sent the Holy Spirit into the world to empower the Christian witness and to prepare the hearts of the lost to receive, to "learn" from the gospel. Without the Holy Spirit working in the heart of the lost, the unsaved person will not accept the things of God, rather, they will consider the gospel foolishness.

3. Every Person Must Respond to the Draw of God In Their Lives. Jesus once again issues a call to believe in Him. The only right response to the drawing of God in our life is to believe. Though some may reject God's work of hearing and learning, some will believe. The Christian cannot know where and when the Holy Spirit is at work, but the Christian can know that Jesus has commanded us to be faithful in our witness. It is the Father's will that none should perish and all should come to repentance and faith in Jesus. The Father is drawing all of humanity to Jesus this very day. For the church, we participate with God by our good confession concerning Christ in the world, and for the lost, we respond to God by believing in Jesus.

1) Without the Draw of God, the Lost Will Not Believe. Despite all the signs and words of Jesus, the crowd that followed Him around the Sea of Galilee still did not believe. Instead, the crowd complained against Jesus. This crowd is representative of the human condition. In that the lost are so corrupted by sin that the Bible says they just do not understand and do not seek God on their own. Unless God takes the initiative and makes the first move for our benefit, the lost will remain in their unbelief.

2) The Draw of God Comes Through Hearing and Learning. Jesus tells the crowd that no one can come to Him unless the Father draws them.