

## Monday - Week Forty-one

### John - Lesson Thirteen: Jesus is the Bread of Life (6:25-71)

1. Explain what Luther means: "To depend on God's Word, so that the heart is not terrified by sin and death, but trusts and believes in God, is a much severer and difficult thing than... the order of monks demand".
2. Jesus is the bread of life. This figure of speech was used in the Old Testament. What's the beauty of each passage from Isaiah?
  - A. Isaiah 49:10
  - B. Isaiah 55:1,2
3. Verse 51 tells us that Jesus' flesh was given for the life of the world. Explain.
4. The Jews understood what Jesus meant. What was their objection in verse 52? (Hint: "this one")
5. Many in the crowd thought this was a "hard" teaching. The Greek word for "hard" means "offensive". These people were offended that Jesus was telling them to give up trying to earn their way to heaven. Why is it a miracle every time someone comes to faith? (if you need a hint: Ephesians 2:1)
6. Peter came through with a wonderful answer to Jesus' question. Peter said, "To whom shall we go?" Indeed, anywhere Peter and the disciples went would have been a huge disappointment. (back home, to the Pharisees, to legalism, to philosophy, etc.) Where are places some people "go to" when they fall away from the faith?

**Read:** Psalm 30; 1 Timothy 6.

**Prayer:** Dear Heavenly Father, always keep my faith rooted in the Bread of Life. Make me depend on Him for my every need. In His name I pray; Amen.

## Tuesday - Week Forty-one

### John - Lesson Fourteen: Jesus at a Feast (7:1-52)

1. The brothers of Jesus thought that bigger was better (a miracle in Jerusalem was better than a miracle in Galilee the brothers reasoned). How does that same attitude rear its head in the church?
2. Verse 5 tells us that Jesus' brothers did not believe in Him at this time. Imagine, Jesus didn't have success (at first) with the members of His family. Why do children of godly parents sometimes fall away?
3. The Jewish leaders tried to control what everyone thought when it came to religion (v 13). One reason was that they thought only experts could understand the Scripture (v 15). Why are those ideas deadly?

Comment: The Bible is a book in which a lamb may wade and an elephant may swim.

4. Read verse 17 carefully. Is Jesus saying that people can bring themselves to faith? Why or why not?
5. Verse 31 tells us that some people believed! Explain: A day in the life of Christ is like a day in the life of the church.
6. The Jews knew what Jesus meant but they mocked Him with questions in verses 35 and 36. What is wonderfully ironic about the Jew's sarcasm at the end of verse 35?

**Read:** Psalm 31; 2 Timothy 1.

**Prayer:** Dear Heavenly Father, bless my study of the Bible. Help me to grow in my understanding of Your Word so that I can help others to explore it as well. In Jesus' name I pray; Amen.

# Wednesday - Week Forty-one

## Catechism Review

### Read Questions 311-318

1. How much do you know about the training that your pastor has? Did you know that your pastor has a working knowledge of Hebrew and Greek, the original languages the Bible was written in? Did you know that he has spent years studying the Bible? Do you put his knowledge to work for you? Do you ask him questions about the things you read in the Bible? Do you ask him for advice? Do you ask him to pray for you? Pastors certainly are not perfect - they have strengths and weaknesses like anyone else. But this man is your pastor, the person God has placed in your life to help you. Be sure to take advantage of this blessing. Comments?

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2. How does your congregation encourage your pastor to continue to study the Word of God? How can you encourage him in this area?

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3. What hasn't your congregation called your pastor to do? Is he doing those things anyway?

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4. How is the call of a Sunday School teacher different from the call your pastor has?

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**Read:** Psalm 32; 2 Timothy 2.

**Prayer:** Dear Heavenly Father, thank You for giving our congregation a well-trained pastor. Keep him faithful in all he says and does. Use me to be an encouragement in his life. In Jesus' name I pray; Amen.

## Thursday - Week Forty-one

### John - Lesson Fifteen: Children of Abraham (8:1-39)

1. The NIV note before verse 1 reads, "The earliest and most reliable manuscripts and other ancient witnesses do not have John 7:53-8:11." Many of the manuscripts that do not have these verses left space for them to be inserted. These verses may not have been in the original copy of John. The number of manuscripts that contain these verses seem to indicate that the story was true.

Read verses 3-6. What might have happened before the Pharisees brought this woman to Jesus?

2. The Jewish leaders had no business bringing this woman into the temple to be judged (the temple was strictly off limits for that). Their hatred of Jesus drove them to break the law. They gave Jesus a yes or no question that seemed to have no solution. Jesus came up with a third option no one had expected. Does Jesus mean that only sinless people can judge others? Explain. (Hint: what does "judge" mean here?)

3. Verse 12 tells us that if Jesus is not in someone's life, they are walking around in the darkness. Imagine, even this world's smartest unbelievers are walking in the dark. How does this change the way we evaluate others?

4. Verse 25 contains the world's most important question. Verse 28 hints that after Jesus' death these leaders would finally think He was the Messiah. Hatred blinded these people. To review, why did the Pharisees hate Jesus so much?

5. These Jews thought that Abraham was their ticket to heaven. Today some people pin their hopes on confirmation or church membership. How can we break those attitudes?

6. How had Abraham seen Jesus' day? (V 56)

**Read:** Psalm 33; 2 Timothy 3.

**Prayer:** Dear Heavenly Father, fill me with the Holy Spirit today. Amen.

## Friday - Week Forty-one

### John - Lesson Sixteen: A Man Born Blind (9:1-41)

1. As Jesus was walking along with His disciples they come upon a man who had been blind from birth. The disciples wanted Jesus' opinion of the cause of the man's blindness. Many people (the disciples and many today) think that bad things are the direct result of sin. What type of thoughts and feelings must that blind man have had all his life?
2. How can you use this quote from Pastor F.W. Wenzel in your life? "The proper thing to do in afflictions is not so much to ask for the cause or reason, but rather to search for its object and purpose."
3. When his neighbors asked the man who healed him, the formerly blind man said, "a man they call Jesus." In our study of this chapter we will see that God worked a strong faith in this man's heart. Read verses 9-12. What do you like about him?
4. The man grew in his faith in verse 17. How had he grown?
5. How could this ordinary, unschooled man stand up to the Pharisees? (v 30-33)
6. The Pharisees responded by slurring the man. They said, "You were steeped in sin at birth." Why would this have been devastating for this man? (Hint: remember who was talking)
7. This man must have learned the significance of the term "Son of Man." This term was reserved for the Son of God, The Messiah. How did the man's faith grow in verse 38?

**Read:** Psalm 34; 2 Timothy 4.

**Prayer:** Dear Father, strengthen my faith too. In Jesus' name; Amen.