



I AM

WEEK 2 | GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

CONNECT

- What is your favorite type of bread (e.g., bagels, rolls, doughnuts, pretzels, sourdough, banana, etc.)? Why?
- What is the hungriest you have ever been?

CONSIDER

- What encouraged or challenged you from the sermon and/or daily devotions this week?

CHRIST

Read John 6:1-15 and 6:25-35 as a group.

- Many people sought out Jesus, often not for who He was, but for His miracles and the things He could give them. **With John 6:1-15 in mind, what motives does Jesus reveal in the crowds of people in verse 26? What experiences or things do you think people seek from Jesus today? How do we sometimes make Jesus a means to an end?**
- In verse 27, Jesus begins to reveal what can bring satisfaction in our lives. As He points out, we have a tendency to seek and desire things that only bring temporary satisfaction and fulfillment. Reflect back over this week. **What are some small ways you might have sought something over Christ to satisfy your soul? Or, maybe you received a gift from God, but lacked thankfulness?**

After revealing their motives, Jesus has a conversation with the crowd, and they ask for a sign referencing a well-known moment in Israel's history. **Read Exodus 16:1-5 as a group.**

- The Israelites had just escaped from slavery in Egypt. Instead of focusing on their freedom, they were complaining about being hungry. They trusted God to walk through the Red Sea but were not convinced He would continue to provide for them. **How do you relate to the**

Israelites? What did the manna from heaven show the people about God? How does the story of manna in the wilderness actually point to Jesus?

- In verse 35, Jesus says that, “I am the Bread of Life.” With this phrase He is claiming to not only be divine but also the only One who can truly satisfy our souls! The Greek word for “life” describes absolute fullness and genuine happiness. The same word is used in John 1:4 (“In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind.”), and John 10:10b (“I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.”) **In what ways have you experienced satisfaction in Christ? Write down all the answers from your group.**
- We have a tendency to forget the Giver while we enjoy the gifts. **Why do you think this is so? How can you shift your mindset to approach God with the right motives or with thanksgiving?**
- Jesus wants to be the source of our satisfaction, the eternal Bread to satisfy our spiritual hunger. **Where are you searching for satisfaction right now (physically, emotionally, spiritually, intellectually, relationally)? What steps can you take to make sure you are focusing on Jesus in this area? As a group how can we be praying for you?**

Group Experience - Communion: Each weekend at Northside, we take a moment to remember through communion that Jesus is the Bread of Life. In fact, Luke wrote in Acts that the early Church would take a moment to remember the sacrifice of Christ when they gathered (Acts 2:42, 20:7). To close out your group time, you’re encouraged to take communion together as a group. The form of bread and juice does not matter. You may choose King’s Hawaiian bread or tortillas. You may serve juice in plastic cups or glassware. The goal is to create a moment to focus your hearts on God. Before taking communion together, consider reading 1 Corinthians 11:23-26 or one of the Gospel accounts of the Last Supper. Then, take some time to pray together as a group before you take the bread and juice.

CALLING

- Where are you finding refreshment and satisfaction? What is the bread that is sustaining you? As you ponder these, make a list of the things in your life where you might be trying to find satisfaction in something other than God. Prayerfully ask God to help you move your focus from these things to Him. Next, make a list of things that spiritually refresh you. Pray through your list. How do you need to change your routines or habits to be satisfied by Jesus regularly?
- **Daily Devotions:** Spend 15 minutes each day with Northside devotions. Text DEVO to 81212 or use the Study tab in Northside’s mobile app for daily devotions.
- **Memorize:**
Then Jesus declared, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.”
John 6:35 (NIV)
- **Further Study:** Here are three books that will help you focus more on God and seek satisfaction in Him:
 - *Life of the Beloved* by Henri Nouwen
 - *The Life You’ve Always Wanted* by John Ortberg
 - *The Real God* by Chip Ingram