SMITH FOR CHRIST · TEACHING THE WORD · WATCHING THE TIMES

THE GOSPEL OF JOHN · LEADER'S SHEET · THURSDAY DEC 24

John 6 · week 6 of 21

The Bread of Life · Answers and notes for Thursday

READ MONDAY – WEDNESDAY · MEET THURSDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 24

Answers to every worksheet question, with the exact NASB key-word counts. Personal questions are marked "Personal."

THE WEEK

Monday	Read John 6 straight through, then again with a pen and mark it · Mon, Dec 21
Tuesday	Read the study notes; answer the Observe questions and count the key words · Tue, Dec 22
Wednesday	Interpret, Weigh the Teachers, the Word study and Apply · Wed, Dec 23
Thursday evening	Together: watch the John 6 part of the film, go through the worksheet, pray · Thu, Dec 24 (Christmas Eve)

KEY VERSE

> **JOHN 6:35 · NASB**
>
> *"Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; he who comes to Me will not hunger, and he who believes in Me will never thirst."*

The longest chapter in John's Gospel: five thousand fed, a storm on the lake, a long sermon in a synagogue, and a crowd that walks away. Watch how quickly the crowd's interest in bread turns into offense at Jesus.

John 6 *The Bread of Life*

KEY VERSE 6:35

Theme of the chapter. Jesus is the bread of life sent down from heaven, the only food that satisfies forever. The crowds want bread and a king on their own terms; He offers Himself, and only those the Father draws come and believe. When many walk away, the true disciple says, "Lord, to whom shall we go?"

KEY WORD COUNTS (NASB)

bread	**17**	vv. 5, 7, 23, 31, 32 (×2), 33, 34, 35, 41, 48, 50, 51 (×3), 58 (×2)
eat / eats / ate	**15**	vv. 5, 23, 26, 31 (×2), 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 56, 57, 58 (×2)
life	**12**	vv. 27, 33, 35, 40, 47, 48, 51, 53, 54, 63 (×2), 68
believe / believes / believed	**9**	vv. 29, 30, 35, 36, 40, 47, 64 (×2), 69
heaven	**10**	vv. 31, 32 (×2), 33, 38, 41, 42, 50, 51, 58
come / comes	**14**	vv. 14, 15, 17, 33, 35, 37 (×2), 38, 42, 44, 45, 50, 65, 69

JOHN 6:1–15 The Feeding

1 OBSERVE *What question does Jesus ask Philip, and why does He ask it (6:5–6)? What does Philip answer (6:7)?*

> "Where are we to buy bread, so that these may eat?" He asked "to test him, for He Himself knew what He was intending to do" (6:6). Philip says two hundred denarii' worth would not be enough (6:7).

2 OBSERVE *What does Andrew find, what does Jesus do with it, and how much is left over (6:9–13)?*

> A lad with "five barley loaves and two fish" (6:9). Jesus gave thanks and distributed as much as they wanted (6:11). Twelve baskets of fragments were left over (6:13).

3 INTERPRET *The crowd wanted to take Him by force to make Him king (6:15). Why did He withdraw?*

> They wanted the wrong kind of king. Sproul: "They were looking for the kingdom of man, and He came to bring the kingdom of God." His kingdom will come on His terms and in His time, through a cross first.

4 APPLY *Philip counted the money; Andrew brought what little there was. What small thing do you have that you need to put in Jesus' hands?*

> Personal. The study's application: "give Him the loaves."

JOHN 6:16–21 The Storm

5 OBSERVE *What were the conditions on the lake, and what did the disciples see (6:18–19)? What did Jesus say (6:20)?*

> It was dark, a strong wind was blowing, and they had rowed three or four miles. They saw Jesus walking on the sea and were frightened. He said, "It is I; do not be afraid" (6:20).

6 INTERPRET *Read Job 9:8 and Exodus 3:14. Why does Sproul hear the divine name in "It is I"?*

> The Greek is *egō eimi*, "I am." Only God treads on the waves of the sea. Henry: "When trouble is nigh Christ is nigh."

JOHN 6:22–40 The Bread from Heaven

7 OBSERVE *Why, according to Jesus, was the crowd looking for Him (6:26)? What does He tell them not to work for (6:27)?*

> "Not because you saw signs, but because you ate of the loaves and were filled" (6:26). "Do not work for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to eternal life" (6:27).

8 OBSERVE *The crowd asks what work they must do. What is Jesus' answer (6:28–29)?*

> "This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He has sent" (6:29).

9 OBSERVE *What does Jesus claim in 6:35, and what two promises come with it?*

> "I am the bread of life." He who comes to Him "will not hunger," and he who believes in Him "will never thirst" (6:35).

10 WEIGH THE TEACHERS *Sproul calls 6:37 "the perseverance of the saints with a vengeance." Spurgeon says "The King's highway is for all." What does each half of 6:37 promise?*

> The first half: all the Father gives will come, so none are lost (6:39). The second half: "the one who comes to Me I will certainly not cast out." Whatever a man believes about election, the second half is for every man who comes.

11 APPLY *Are you seeking Jesus mainly for what He can give you, the "loaves," or for Himself?*

> Personal. The study's confession: "seeking Him for loaves."

JOHN 6:41–59 Drawn and Fed

12 OBSERVE *Why did the Jews grumble (6:41–42)? What does Jesus say no one can do unless the Father draws him (6:44)?*

> He said He came down out of heaven, and they knew Him as "the son of Joseph." "No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him" (6:44).

13 WEIGH THE TEACHERS *Sproul reads "draws" (6:44) as compel; Guzik reads "alluring, not dragging." Spurgeon: "Do not imagine that any man will go to heaven kicking and struggling all the way against the hand that draws him." Where do they agree?*

> No one comes on his own, and God takes the initiative. Verse 45 shows He draws by teaching: "everyone who has heard and learned from the Father, comes to Me."

14 INTERPRET *Compare 6:47 and 6:54. What do both promise, and what does that tell you about "eating His flesh"?*

> Both promise eternal life, one to the one who believes, the other to the one who eats. To eat is to believe. All four teachers read the passage first as faith-union with Christ. Henry: "It is a spiritual eating and drinking that is here spoken of, not a sacramental."

JOHN 6:60–71 The Sifting

15 OBSERVE *What do many disciples say, and what do they do (6:60, 66)?*

> "This is a difficult statement; who can listen to it?" (6:60). "Many of His disciples withdrew and were not walking with Him anymore" (6:66).

16 INTERPRET *Jesus says "the flesh profits nothing" (6:63). He does not mean His own flesh, which He just gave for the world. What does He mean?*

> Human nature on its own. Sproul: "The flesh cannot produce spiritual reality." Life comes by the Spirit through Jesus' words, which "are spirit and are life" (6:63).

17 OBSERVE *What does Jesus ask the Twelve, and how does Peter answer (6:67–69)?*

> "You do not want to go away also, do you?" Peter: "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have words of eternal life. We have believed and have come to know that You are the Holy One of God" (6:68–69).

18 APPLY *When Jesus says something hard, what are your options? Write Peter's answer in your own words.*

> Personal. The study frames it as a choice to make: "To whom shall we go?"

WORD STUDY

19 WORD *helkō (G1670), to draw, to drag. The same verb is used in 12:32 ("will draw all men") and 21:6, 11 (hauling a net). What does that range of uses suggest about God's drawing?*

> It is real, strong pulling, not a mild suggestion. Christians differ on whether it can be resisted, but no one comes to Christ without it.

20 WORD *ekballō (G1544), to cast out. In 6:37 Jesus says He will "certainly not" cast out the one who comes. Why does the double negative matter for a man afraid he has gone too far?*

> In Greek it is the strongest possible "never." No one who comes is turned away.

ACTS 17:11 The Chosen check

> ACTS 17:11 · NASB
> *"...examining the Scriptures daily to see whether these things were so."*

WATCH THIS WEEK
Season 3, Episode 8, "Sustenance" (6:1–21)

Answers and notes for the Chosen check. Let the group find the differences in the text before you give them.

C1 OBSERVE

Read 6:16–21. Does John record Peter walking on the water? Where is that account found, and how does John's account end?

> No. Peter's walk is in Matthew 14:28–31. In John, they take Jesus into the boat and immediately it is at the land (6:21).

C2 OBSERVE

Read 6:8–9. Who finds the boy with the loaves and fish? The Bread of Life sermon (6:22–71) is not in the episode — what is its main claim?

> Andrew. In the sermon Jesus says, "I am the bread of life" (6:35): He Himself is what the manna pointed to.

C3 INTERPRET

What did the episode add that John 6 does not say? Does the addition help you see the text, or does it change what the text means?

> Additions are not automatically wrong; they are not Scripture. The test is whether an addition changes what the text says about Jesus.

C4 APPLY

The Bereans received the word eagerly and examined the Scriptures daily (Acts 17:11). Where are you most tempted to let a picture, a sermon or a feeling stand in for the text?

> Personal. Press for one concrete habit: reading the chapter before watching, and checking every scene against it.

The Chosen is a drama, not Scripture. God's Word is the truth; where the film differs, the Word wins.