

DEVOTED

A NEW SERMON SERIES

PART 3: DEVOTED TO THE BREAKING OF BREAD

Sermon Notes

Text: Acts 2:42-47, John 6:48-58

Intro:

Acts 2:46

Food has symbolic significance in the scriptures

Psalm 34:8

Food has a profound role in the overarching story of scripture

John 6:35

1. There is a universal spiritual hunger

“Creatures are not born with desires unless satisfaction for those desires exists. A baby feels hunger: well, there is such a thing as food. A duckling wants to swim: well, there is such a thing as water. Men feel sexual desire: well, there is such a thing as sex. If I find in myself a desire which no experience in this world can satisfy, the most probable explanation is that I was made for another world” ~C.S. Lewis

Psalm 42:1

2. Jesus offers satisfaction

John 6:49-51

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We need to remain devoted to the breaking of bread as a means to remind ourselves to stop trying to fill our souls with things that do not satisfy.

John 6:30-31

It's possible to love Jesus only for what he offers. But the greatest thing Jesus offers is himself.

John 6:51

Conclusion:

You are what you eat

John 6:54

What you fill your soul with is what shapes it. Fill your soul with Jesus.

Life Group Discussion

Warm up:

1. What is your go-to snack? Do you have any family traditions that involve food (holiday meals, special recipes, favourite snacks?).
2. Do you find the metaphor of food helpful, as it relates to Jesus? How does Jesus “feed” us?

Study & Discussion:

1. Read and discuss C.S. Lewis’ quote. What does this “desire which no experience in this world can satisfy” *feel* like to you? What are the competing “foods” out there that promise satisfaction? How can we avoid being deceived by them?
2. Read John 6:1-15. This feeding of the 5000 sets the context for Jesus’ words about being the bread of life. Did you notice anything else of significance in this passage?
 - Read v. 25-27. What does this say about the response of the people? Why did they miss the point?
 - Have you ever caught yourself chasing Jesus for his blessings, rather than just for his presence?
3. Some traditions take Jesus words in v. 51 (“This bread is my flesh”) literally, believing that the bread and wine *become* the actual body and blood of Jesus. Others view these merely as symbols. Certainly, participating in this meal must be more than empty symbolism. What are your thoughts?
 - What significance does communion have for you? When did you have your first communion?
 - Read 1 Corinthians 11:23-26. What does this passage add to the conversation?

Application:

1. Eating and drinking the symbols of communion represent the act of believing in Jesus’ life-giving work on the cross. But our devotion to Jesus must go beyond symbols. How will you display your devotion to Jesus this week?

Prayer:

1. Pray
2. Other Requests
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