

## **Bible Study** **John 6:24-35**

Immediately before this passage Jesus has miraculously fed 5000 people from the humble offerings of a small child. In this passage the crowd have followed Jesus to Capernaum in the hope of the further provision of material benefit.

### **Opening Question:**

What are some reasons why people eat food?

### **Read John 6:24–35**

1. What are some of the reasons that people might 'follow' Jesus for what he can give them rather than for who he truly is?  
(a) How does this view of following Jesus distort the biblical perspective?
  
2. What does it mean to be spiritually hungry? (Matthew 5:6, Psalm 42:2, Psalm 143:6)  
(a) What things can we do today to satisfy our spiritual hunger? (1 Peter 2:2, Psalm 81:10, Psalm 63:1)
  
3. What does Jesus mean when he says 'I am the bread of life'? (Ex 3:14)  
(a) Why does Jesus correct the crowds understanding of who provided the manna in the wilderness (V31, Nehemiah 9:15, Exodus 16:1-5)  
(b) How does the 'manna' in the wilderness point to Jesus?
  
4. What are some of the common things in which people seek satisfaction?  
(a) What are some examples of bread that perishes? (Hebrews 13:5)

5. What is the root cause of grumbling? (Exodus 16:15-28, Proverbs 27:20, Ecclesiastes 1:8, Ecclesiastes 5:10, Luke 12:15)
  - (a) How can we use God's gifts in a way that cultivates a holy hunger for being satisfied by God alone?
  
6. Where else in scripture do we see stories that deal with food?
  - (a) In what ways does our need for food and our delight in food lead us to consider our need for God and our delight in God?
  
7. What kind of works do people sometimes pursue to try to please God?
  - (a) Why do you think that they do this?
    - i. Why is this labour done in vain?
  - (b) According to Jesus what is the most important thing that he requires of us?
  
8. Is it a paradox to do the work of 'believing'?

**Personal Reflection:**

1. When are you guilty of pursuing bread which perishes?
2. When are you at risk of not focussing on the work of 'believing' over the work of 'doing'?
3. What steps might you take to reignite your spiritual hunger this week?