

BREAD OF LIFE

DISCIPLESHIP GUIDE - WEEK OF MARCH 10, 2019

HEARTBEAT This week we want to explore the biblical truth that Jesus is the Bread of Life. As Daniel will emphasize in his message, Jesus does not distribute the bread of life, but he is the bread of life. In some ways, that may feel like a very abstract concept, so the goal of this week's discussion is to make that a very concrete concept that we can draw on in our life with Christ.

GETTING STARTED [10 minutes]

Choose one or both.

- Where did you grow up and what was the best thing about where you grew up?
- If you were financially independent, where would you want to live and why?

MID-CITIES DNA [10 minutes]

Choose one.

- On a scale of 1-10, how well do you know and understand the Bible, with 1 being "no real knowledge at all" and 10 being a "recognized Bible scholar?" How do you plan to grow in your knowledge and understanding of the Word?
- What is your favorite book of the Bible or story in the Bible and why?

EXPLORATION [25 minutes]

Choose two or three.

- What was the most significant thing you heard in this week's sermon?

Read Exodus 16:1-23 & Matthew 6:9-13

- Summarize the story of manna in the wilderness.
- What happened when the people gathered manna for more than one day, when that day was not the Sabbath?
- Why do you think God made them gather daily rather than letting them gather a week's worth or a month's worth at a time?
- How is that principle reflected in the Lord's Prayer in Matthew 6?
- What would have been the challenges in eating manna every day for 40 years?
- What do you think was remarkable about manna, other than it appearing on the ground every morning?
- Read Psalm 78:23-25. What do you think about manna being the "bread of angels?"
- What parallels do you see between manna and Jesus, who said that he was the bread of life and the bread of heaven? (See John 6:30-33).

ACTIVATION [30 minutes]

- What is the difference between seeking something from Jesus and in seeking Jesus himself?
- How do you personally seek Jesus himself, rather than just seeking something from him?
- If Jesus is the Bread of Heaven and if we are to ask for daily bread, how are you doing in seeking nourishment from him daily? What is your plan or routine for that?
- What is your best source of spiritual nourishment? What resources do you study, read, or listen to?
- How is your life different when you are spending quality time with God daily rather than just on a hit or miss basis?

MINISTRY TIME [15 minutes]

Please, encourage the exercise of spiritual gifts during your ministry time. Choose one or two of these prayer topics for your ministry time or choose your own prayer format and topics. You may want to break your larger group up into smaller groups of two or three.

- Spend some time praying in a way that develops your relationship with Jesus...praise, thanksgiving, asking for a spirit of wisdom and revelation to know him better, a desire to see him touch him, hear him, etc.
- Pray for the spiritual discipline to spend time with Jesus on a daily basis.
- Commit to encourage one another to spend daily time with the Lord and be accountable to one another.

The Week of March 17

During the week of March 17, we will not provide a sermon-based curriculum, but want to encourage our groups to reconnect after Spring Break and do something fun and something relational as we start down the home stretch for our groups. You may also want to discuss how you might serve the church on Easter as a team. Thanks so much.