

The Gospel of John
Part 15
John 6:1-20

Jesus, You are Lord of my life.

I present myself to you as a holy and living sacrifice.

I am committed to doing your will no matter how difficult or hard it might be.

Please, give me your strength to serve you well.

I am looking forward to heaven very much.

John 6:1-15 After these things Jesus went away to the other side of the Sea of Galilee (or Tiberias).

Matthew 14:13 Now when Jesus heard about John, He withdrew from there in a boat to a secluded place by Himself;

Mark 6:31 And He said to them, "Come away by yourselves to a secluded place and rest a while." (For there were many people coming and going, and they did not even have time to eat.)

A large crowd followed Him, because they saw the signs which He was performing on those who were sick. Then Jesus went up on the mountain, and there He sat down with His disciples. Now the Passover, the feast of the Jews, was near. Therefore Jesus, lifting up His eyes and seeing that a large crowd was coming to Him,

Matthew 14:14 When He went ashore, He saw a large crowd, and felt compassion for them and healed their sick.

Mark 6:34 When Jesus went ashore, He saw a large crowd, and He felt compassion for them because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and He began to teach them many things.

said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread, so that these may eat?" This He was saying to test him, for He Himself knew what He was intending to do. Philip answered Him, "Two hundred denarii worth of bread is not sufficient for them, for everyone to receive a little." One of His disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to Him, "There is a lad here who has five barley loaves and two fish, but what are these for so many people?" Jesus said, "Have the people sit down." Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, in number about five thousand. Jesus then took the loaves, and having given thanks, He distributed to those who were seated; likewise also of the fish as much as they wanted. When they were filled, He said to His disciples, "Gather up the leftover fragments so that nothing will be lost." So they gathered them up, and filled twelve baskets with fragments from the five barley loaves which were left over by those who had eaten. Therefore when the people saw the sign which He had performed, they said, "This is truly the Prophet who is to come into the world." So Jesus, perceiving that they were intending to come and take Him by force to make Him king, withdrew again to the mountain by Himself alone.

1. Jesus did many **miracles** to **prove** to people that He was the Son of God, the promised **Messiah**.

John 5:36 "But the testimony which I have is greater than the testimony of John; for the works which the Father has given Me to accomplish—the very works that I do—testify about Me, that the Father has sent Me.

John 20:30 Therefore many other signs Jesus also performed in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book;

John 20:31 but these have been written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name.

John 21:25 And there are also many other things which Jesus did, which if they were written in detail, I suppose that even the world itself would not contain the books that would be written.

2. The problem was that people came to Jesus as a result of His miracles not to **hear truth** and to serve and **follow** Him but simply to have their **problems** fixed.

John 6:1-2 After these things Jesus went away to the other side of the Sea of Galilee (or Tiberias). A large crowd followed Him, because they saw the signs which He was performing on those who were sick.

John 6:15 So Jesus, perceiving that they were intending to come and take Him by force to make Him king, withdrew again to the mountain by Himself alone.

3. The same is **true** today; the gospel that the world **wants** is the "**prosperity** gospel".

2 Timothy 4:3-4 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires, and will turn away their ears from the truth and will turn aside to myths.

4. The **prosperity** gospel says that if Jesus really **loves** us He will give us a **wonderful** life which is a life of **comfort** and free from trials.

5. People who are attracted to the gospel of **comfort** and make a commitment of faith usually **fall** away from their commitment **disillusioned** when **hard** times come.

Mark 4:17 and they have no firm root in themselves, but are only temporary; then, when affliction or persecution arises because of the word, immediately they fall away.

6. When Jesus promised **salvation** He was promising a life of total joy free from all trials **forever** with Him **after** this life is **over**.

1 Corinthians 2:9 but just as it is written, "Things which eye has not seen and ear has not heard, And which have not entered the heart of man, all that God has prepared for those who love Him."

Isaiah 25:8 He will swallow up death for all time, And the Lord God will wipe tears away from all faces, And He will remove the reproach of His people from all the earth; For the Lord has spoken.

Revelation 21:4 and He will wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there will no longer be any death; there will no longer be any mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away.”

7. Jesus called people to **follow** Him and **serve** Him in this life and to **embrace** a life of **suffering**.

Matthew 7:13-14 “Enter through the narrow gate; for the gate is wide and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and there are many who enter through it. “For the gate is small and the way is narrow that leads to life, and there are few who find it.

Matthew 16:24 Then Jesus said to His disciples, “If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross and follow Me.

Philippians 1:29 For to you it has been granted for Christ’s sake, not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for His sake,

8. Life is **hard**, it is supposed be **hard**. Those who know this don’t **fuss** and **whine**.

1 Peter 4:12-13 Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal among you, which comes upon you for your testing, as though some strange thing were happening to you; but to the degree that you share the sufferings of Christ, keep on rejoicing, so that also at the revelation of His glory you may rejoice with exultation.

9. Those who know life is supposed to be **hard** pray for strength, joy, peace, wisdom, and opportunity to serve rather than for God to **make** things **better**.

Revelation 2:10 ‘Do not fear what you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to cast some of you into prison, so that you will be tested, and you will have tribulation for ten days. Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.

10. If Jesus is God then we ought to be fully devoted to following and serving Him. It is amazing how easily we can **dance** around **commitment** and be fully devoted to **mediocrity**.

1 Kings 18:21 Elijah came near to all the people and said, "How long will you hesitate between two opinions? If the Lord is God, follow Him; but if Baal, follow him." But the people did not answer him a word.

11. We can follow and serve Jesus well with great **endurance** and joy if we keep our **eyes** on the **finish line**.

Hebrews 12:1-3 Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. For consider Him who has endured such hostility by sinners against Himself, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

12. Those that have a strong faith in Jesus and great **hope** in **heaven** will be very **attractive** to a hurting world because of their incomprehensible **joy**.

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