

Eating and Drinking to Eternal Life

John 6:49-71

Introduction: This chapter describes a defection that seeps into the band of disciples and Jesus knows (64b, 70). Nonetheless, God has people for this Church to reach and we can be a part of that by the Holy Spirit.

True Manna - John 6:49-51

Eating to Live - John 6:52-58 (1 Corinthians 2:14)

Concept: The unusual nature of these words cause many to step back; they lack the Spirit (63); they are not granted by the Father (65); they have yet to be drawn (44).

Conclusion: (vs. 59) The crowd is dispersing, many made the trip from the other side of the Sea of Galilee for nothing—this was nonsense! So they head home, resisting and rejecting Jesus for who he is claiming to be.

The Spirit Gives Life - John 6:60-71

The Spirit's Role - 60-63 - Jesus says - "It is the Spirit that gives life." (1 John 4:13)

Concept: This is the divine point of view: The Father authored salvation; the Son purchase salvation and the Holy Spirit brings it to each of us one at a time.

The Flesh's Role - 64-71

Concept: There is a sense that the defection is so substantial that few beyond the disciples remained, but it calls us to rest in the sovereignty of God.

Precept: Jesus calls me to go and make disciples as God is drawing; granting repentance and giving the Holy Spirit and he wants to use us to carry the gospel and be part of the harvest.

Conclusion: Jeremiah 15:16; John 1:1-18; 5:19-30

1. Believing in Jesus is believing in his word; it is nurtured by being in His word and making it what it was always meant to be - a living revelation of God's 'so great salvation' by Christ Jesus through the Holy Spirit.
2. Belief is essential to eternal life. (Hebrews 3:12-19)
3. The Spirit's role is critical; he convicts of sin; awakens us to repentance; calls us to spiritual life; puts us on the path of sanctification, confirms that we are a child of God opening the way to eternal life by Jesus Christ.
4. Finally, Jesus is never discouraged by the fall out; he commissions us to love God and others (The Great Commandment) and to go and make disciples of all nations (The Great Commission).

Outreach - Getting involved with people where I live and work to build relationships by showing the love of Christ in tangible ways for the ultimate purpose of sharing Christ.

Evangelism - Sharing what Christ has done for us and calling them to repentance and belief.

Discipleship - Walking with 'coming' and 'growing' believers to become like Christ and teaching them to obey God's word.