

Morning Worship

April 15, 2018

Pastor — Allan Lane	Organ --- Alva Lou Schottel
Worship Leader — Don Beavers	Piano — Marcia Hart
As you enter for worship, please silence your cell phones.	
(CCLI permit # 424692 covers all copyright song lyrics)	
Chorus # 44 <i>I Worship You, Almighty God</i>	Don/People
Worship Prayer	Allan Lane
Welcome and Fellowship	Allan/People
Scripture Reading Deuteronomy 8:2-4	Don/People
Hymn # 533 <i>He Lives</i>	Don/People
Hymn # 555 <i>A Child of the King</i>	Don/People
Hymn # 263 <i>Break Thou the Bread of Life</i>	Don/People
Offering Prayer	Bill Schottel
Tithes and Offerings	People
Offering Music	Marcia Hart
Children's Worship	(Children are dismissed)
Scripture Reading John 6:1-40	Allan/People
Message <i>The Bread of Life</i>	Allan Lane
Hymn # 294 <i>Have Thine Own Way, Lord</i>	Don/People
Prayer Concerns	Allan/People
Chorus # 33 <i>Hallelujah! Praise the Lamb</i>	Don/People

The Bread of Life

John 6:1-40

When I was growing up, bread was a main staple at every meal. I'm sure it was for many of you. My mother was a great bread baker. She usually baked twice a week and it would be fresh out of the oven when we got off the school bus. There's nothing like fresh, hot, out of the oven homemade bread. Slap a little butter and molasses on it - yum! Well, you get the picture. It was a food that brought comfort to me.

As World War II was drawing to a close, the Allied armies gathered up as many hungry orphans as they could and placed them in camps where they were fed and cared for. Even though the conditions were better than what they might have had otherwise, these children slept poorly. Each evening they were nervous and afraid. Finally, a psychologist studied the situation and came up with a solution. At bedtime each child was given a piece of bread just large enough to fit in the palm of their hands. They were just to hold it and not eat it. It was a promise that they would be given enough food the next day. Therefore each child went to sleep knowing instinctively they would have enough to eat, guaranteeing each child a restful and contented sleep.

The "I Am" statements of Jesus represent a particular relational element that meets the spiritual needs of men and women. Ravi Zacharias writes this about the "I am the bread of life" statement. "Jesus' words were intended to lift the listeners from their barren, food-dominated existence to the recognition and acknowledgement of the

supreme hunger of life that can only be filled with a different bread. Food and power blind the mind to the need for nourishment and strength of soul."

It was St. Augustine who noted that every single person has within them a God-shaped vacuum in their soul. We can and do attempt to fill that cavity with a host of other things, but finally nothing fills our hunger for redemption and significance except Jesus and His Gospel.

The Biblical context of this passage begins with the feeding of the 5,000 and continues with the zeal of the crowd to force Jesus to be the kind of King they wanted Him to be.

1. Four Groups of People in the Crowd.

a. The Materialist .

Many of the people who followed Jesus at this point were hoping for a political savior. They wanted political solutions, free handouts, and material goodies. For them Jesus was the latest and best gravy train. These people had watched the limited success of Rome's welfare program called "A Bread for Peace." This program was implemented in Rome to feed the jobless and hungry. It was a way the government tried to buy them off with bread and stuff. But the plan backfired as the demands of the crowd grew and grew. People took advantage of it whether they were needy or not. Hmm. Sound familiar?

Jesus saw the same thing in those who followed Him (John 6:26). Missionaries in third-world countries often refer to what they call "rice Christians." They are people who convert to Christianity in exchange for food or some other physical benefit.

This practice is present in North America as well. We use the church to develop business contacts, personal relationships, or community status. Some people look to God only for what they can get. They are quick to turn their back on God the first time He fails to deliver what they want.

Blogger Jeanne Zornes writes:

As a new Christian, I presumed Jesus' main job was taking care of me. He led me to a good job, to roommates who shared apartment expenses, and a car that ran. But after a while my tastes got fussier. Like the Israelites who woke up to manna every morning, I got tires of the same-old same-old. I wanted a home with more privacy, a more interesting and better paying, less stressful job, and a shinier new car. My list continued to grow. I wanted Jesus to perk me up when I was down, remove all my difficulties, and make living a whole lot easier. When those things didn't happen, I felt as if Jesus had walked away from me. What I didn't realize was that He had put a loving distance between us, just as He did with the crowd that night, knowing that they wanted to force Him to be King.

b. The Legalist .

Some people were looking for a free ride, while another group was looking for a list of rules to follow that would assuredly lead them to heaven. Rather than discover mature spirituality for themselves, they depend on the minister or some other charismatic person to lead them and literally tell them what they are to believe (John 6:28).

Over the years there are those in the church who have fallen into the sin of legalism. It is easier to make rules than to build relationships. Legalists never listen to a preached message or assess a worship service based on its positive points and what it has to offer people. They look for the negative. Jesus saw right through this ploy with His answer (John 6:29).

Folks, we do not need more law. What we need is a closer relationship with the giver of the law.

c. The Sensationalist .

This group has to be the hardest group to figure out. Keeping with the context, just the day before Jesus had performed many healings plus feed 5,000 men with five barley bread loaves and two fish. The miracle wasn't just in the healings and the feeding, but in the massive amount of food that was collected after everyone had eaten their fill. You and I might be wowed! But the sensationalist wasn't. After seeing all this, they questioned Jesus for more (John 6:30-31).

The miracle of feeding the 5,000 is often paralleled with the Old Testament sign of God feeding the Israelites manna in the wilderness. The manna sign was particularly significant in that it happened six days a week for forty years. These people were looking for the same thing from Jesus. Feeding the crowd and walking away was old news. Today was a new day. The next miracle was long overdue.

We have folks like this in the church today. One writer calls them "Pep Rally Believers." Basically, he's saying that if you keep them wowed you can keep them around. But if they ever get bored, they will be gone. These people crave spiritual excitement all the time. They want new experiences all the time. They want Jesus to take them from one mountain top to the next with no valleys in between. They want all kinds of rewards but no responsibility. All too often these people will hop from church to church to church – always looking for the newest style, the latest seminar, the most electrifying concert, or the most exciting presentation.

When we plan worship, it isn't put together to entertain you. The main emphasis is to create an environment where your heart turns to God so He can speak to you. When God speaks, you might get uncomfortable. You might become emotional, whether sorrowful for your sin, or angry at God for pointing it out. The Holy Spirit's conviction is the goal. You may like a certain style of music over another, or a certain style of preaching over another, but worship isn't about getting what you want to suit your own needs. It's about coming before the Sovereign Lord and receiving a word from Him.

Ronald Reagan described these people very well in one of his speeches. He said "a baby's alimentary canal (their digestive system) is a lot like the American public (the sensationalist): Insatiable appetite at one end and total lack of responsibility at the other end."

Some of Jesus' closest disciples wanted Jesus only for what they could get out of Him. The sad fact is that many of His disciples turned their backs on Him as a result and would not follow Him any further (John 6:66).

2. Four Lessons for Us to Learn.

In the midst of this discourse Jesus made the statement "I am the Bread of Life." He was actually drawing on those two already stated historical events: the manna miracle in the wilderness and the previous day feeding the crowd. There are four lessons we can learn from this passage.

a. Jesus is God .

As with all the "I am" statements, Jesus is making a direct claim to deity. He is revealing that He alone is the source of everlasting life and the sustainer of spiritual life now (John 6:32-33, 35).

b. Jesus Satisfies Hunger.

What bread is to the stomach Jesus claims to be for the soul. Bread is a physical staple. It can be served in many forms, both rich and poor have it, it's eaten almost daily, and it can sustain us.

The people in Jesus' day misunderstood the manna example. They credited Moses with providing the manna when in reality it is God Who gives every good and perfect gift. Thus, they wanted the physical Jesus to be the answer to their needs. Jesus reminded them that it is Jehovah Jirah, the God Who provides, who will meet all their needs, both physical and spiritual. Jesus told them not to keep their eyes on the temporal, manmade solutions, but to trust the great provider (Psalm 34:8).

c. Jesus Gives Eternal Life .

Christ has given us His all (John 6:47-51). It's not about living by a set of rules, a supernatural sign, or materialism. If these things are what you're looking for, then Christ

isn't your answer. Actually, if those things are your priorities, then there's no reason for you to follow Him. But if you are looking for truly abundant life, He is the only one Who has it. He says to you something like this: "Quit complicating this. I am the bread of life. You want eternal life, partake of Me. I have already made the sacrifice, made My life available to you. Just receive it and you will have eternal life. You will never die."

d. Jesus was Sacrificed for All.

In the words of Jesus, He was claiming the bread He gives is His flesh, which He gives for the life of the world." Christ died for each of us. He went to the cross and became the bread of life broken for the sins of the world.

Conclusion

Who was the Fourth Group in the Crowd?

d. The Seeker .

I told you there was a fourth group in the crowd that day. There is one final lesson for us found in those who were truly seeking to know the truth about Jesus. They were there to follow Jesus and learn enough about Him so they could make up their minds about Who He really was.

There are still true seekers today. What do they see when they look at us? When they attend our church? Do they see the legalist, the materialist, or the sensationalist? Or do they see other seekers who are striving to know Jesus and make Him known? Do they see people who are willing to serve to them the true bread of life? It's possible some turned away from Jesus not because of His words, but rather because of the reaction of the other three groups of people.

Perhaps we could learn more about serving the bread of life from the following parable on bread.

There was a beggar who came and sat before a baker. "I want bread," he said.

"How wise you are," the baker assured him. "Bread is what you need. And you have come to the right bakery." So he pulled his cookbook down from his shelf and began to tell the beggar all he knew about bread.

He spoke of flour and wheat, of grain and barley. The baker's knowledge impressed even himself as he cited the measurements and recipe. When he looked up, he was surprised to see that the beggar wasn't smiling. "I just want bread," he said.

"How wise you are." The baker applauded his choice. "Follow me, and I'll show you our bakery." Down the hallowed halls he guided him, pausing to point out the rooms where the dough is prepared and the ovens where the bread is baked.

"No one has such facilities. We have bread for every need. But here is the best part," he proclaimed as he pushed open two swinging doors. "This is our room of inspiration."

The baker knew the beggar was moved as they stepped into the auditorium full of stained-glass windows. The beggar didn't speak. The baker understood his silence. With his arm around his shoulder, he whispered, "It overwhelms me as well."

Then the baker leaped to the podium and struck his favorite pose behind the lectern. "People come from miles to hear me speak. Once a week my workers gather, and I read to them the recipe from the cookbook of life."

By now the beggar had taken a seat on the front row. The baker knew what he wanted. "Would you like to hear me?"

"No," he said, "but I would like some bread."

"How wise you are," The baker replied. And he led him to the front door of the bakery. "What I have to say next is very important," he told him as they stood outside. "Up and down this street you will find many bakeries. But take heed; they don't serve the true bread. I know of one who adds two spoons of salt rather than one. I know of another whose oven is three degrees too hot. They may call it bread," the baker warned, "but it's not according to the book."

The beggar turned and began walking away. "Don't you want bread?" the baker asked him. He stopped, looked back, and shrugged, "I guess I lost my appetite."

The baker shook his head and returned to his office. "What a shame," he said to himself. "The world just isn't hungry for true bread anymore."

We Must Serve Out "The Bread!"

A Parable on Bread

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While this story is a part of today's sermon, I wanted you to have it in print that you might re-read and meditate upon it. Too often our world is hungrier for bread than we are to feed them. We must search our hearts and ask God to make us willing to share Jesus Christ, the bread of life, with a lost and hungry world. Will you ask God for His help?

God Bless You!

Bro. Allan

Opportunities For Service

Living out Your Spiritual Commitment . . . and Fulfilling Christ's Divine Plan

Sunday, April 15, 2018

Sunday School.....9:15 am

Morning Worship.....10:30 am

Nursery: Volunteers as needed

Ushers: ? ? ? ?, Larry McKahan, Ken Kirkpatrick, Bill Schottel

Alternate: Ken Nice

Evening Services.....6:30 pm

Wednesday, April 18

Prayer / Bible Study.... 6:30 pm

Worship Team 7:30 pm

Thursday, April 19

Food Pantry

Saturday, April 21

THUNDER ON THE MOUNTAIN

God's Mountain..... 7:30 am

Sunday, April 22, 2018

Choir Rehearsal..... 9:00 am

Sunday School 9:15 am

Morning Worship.....10:30 am

Nursery: Volunteers as needed

Ushers: ? ? ? ?, Ken Nice, Don Sharp, Fred Kerns

Alternate: ? ? ? ?

Diversicare Services... 2:30 pm

No Evening Services

Wednesday, April 25

Prayer / Bible Study6:30 pm
Worship Team 7:30 pm

Thursday, April 26

VBS Orders Due at SJBA Mission Center

Up-Coming Events.....

April 15 — Collect for the Longs

April 19 — Food Pantry

April 21 — Thunder on the Mountain

April 22 — Diversicare 2:30 pm

April 29 — Semi-Annual Meeting, FBC Maysville

GROW Team

Commit to **GROW!** **Everyone make a contact!** Invite someone to Bible Study and Worship this week. ☺

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Sunday Nights

We will have Sunday night services tonight at 6:30 pm. Our study is entitled: *A Case for Faith*. Don't miss it!

Wednesday Night Prayer and Bible Study

Come pray for the direction of our church. Please plan to attend and pray at 6:30 pm and enjoy a time of fellowship and Bible Study.

Diversicare Nursing Home

Sunday, April 22, 2:30 pm

Please join us as we
minister to those who can no longer attend their
own churches.

Thank You!

Thank You church, for once again supporting the Keyboard Festival. I appreciate this church!

Sharon Waters

THUNDER ON THE MOUNTAIN
Saturday, April 21

God's Mountain Camp
Breakfast—7:30 to 9 am
Praise and Worship—9-10 am
John "The Baptist" Mohler—10-11
Break Out Sessions—11-12
Lunch—12-1 pm
Concert—1-2:30 pm
Bike Blessing—2:30 pm
Ride—2:45 pm

Whether you ride or not, it will be a great day of worship and praise!

SJBA
Semi-Annual Meeting
April 29, 2018
4:00 pm

First Baptist Church, Maysville

Messengers: Vicki Long, Ellen Lane, Gina Harr, Don Beavers, Betty Campbell, Allan Lane.

Mark Your Calendars Now!

• June 11-15

Youth Camp

• July 16-20

Children's Camp

• August 18

Men's Conference

Frederick Boulevard Baptist Church

For the Record

Attendance: April 8, 2018

Sunday School.....	23
Visitors.....	1
Total.....	24
Contacts Made.....	8
Morning Worship.....	35
Children's Worship.....	N/A
Wednesday Night	9

Financial Record:

Weekly Budget	\$ 2,286.39
Offering Received ...	\$ 2,260.42

Annie Armstrong..... \$ 1,840.00
Long Family-March... \$ 80.00

Offering Received by Mail:

April Counting Team:

Don Beavers and Jordan Lane

April Van Driver:

Mike Green

Remember to call 232-3747
before 8 am if you need a ride.

April Member Birthdays:

05... Datha Dillon
13... Alice Coats
15... Larry McKahan
25... Jo Mayse
30... Nikki Garber

April Anniversaries

Joe and Pam Battreal
April 17, 1999

Bill and Juanita Haskins
April 17, 1948

Joseph and Alice Coats
April 29, 2000

Prayer Requests ...

Mike Green—inflection in knee
Jessica Kirkpatrick and baby Levi
People Traveling
Daniel and Amy Harr—housing
Larry McKahan—surgery recovery
Donna and Bill Dunn—health
Joyce Cook—health
Jack and Flo Conard
Peggy & Gary Fewins—Peggy's health
Arlette Duty—strength
Gina Harr—strength
Don Beavers—heart and health
Curtis Conard—recovery
Emily Jones & baby Liam
Cynthia Burdick—cancer recovery
Karissa and Matt Long and family
The Waters Family—guidance
Stephanie & Jason Terpack
Shawna Hughes—recovery
Larry Danner—cancer
Rosella Davis—Flo Conard's sister
Mary Sharp's brother-in-law Jim

Bill Clinton—Don and Mae's son
Lisa Bowers—Jack and Flo's daughter
LoLeta Middleton—strength
Elvera's daughter & daughter-in-law
Zella Davis —Doris Richardson's sister
Rev. A. B. Brown Betty Campbell
George Ferbert Kevin Duty
Ellen Blanton Lois Ulmer
Jim Winans Nellie Reynolds
Madeline Swink Ann Riddle
Kathryn Beavers Keon McKahan
Jozy Winans Kenny Duty
Pat Means Buddy Means
Bill & Juanita Debbie Sands
Pat Puckett Judy Anderson
Brenda Burgess Roscoe Lane
Carolyn Houts Tim Izer
Nickolay Nazaruk, Peski 2 Church
David and Deborah Grace
Our Nation and Leaders
Our Military Service people
Today's Prayer Requests ...

Our Nation and our Leaders ...

Five More New Families...
