

Leaving

Pastor Jeff Bucknam | John 6:60–69

NOTE: As a guide, use these questions to help with group and family discussion, or for personal reflection. Not all questions are needed. Select the ones that will best serve your group as you grow in Christ together through His Word. *Soli Deo Gloria.*

Ice Breaker

Who is someone you admire for their faithful and constant obedience to the Lord?

Understanding the Text in Context

Read the text together. Jesus' teaching about being the Bread of Life had just caused confusion and offense among many of His followers (John 6:22–59). As you read these verses, what reasons do people give for turning away from Jesus? How does Peter's response reveal a different understanding of who Jesus is?

What contrast do you see between those who leave and the disciples who remain?

Connecting to Jesus and His Gospel

Jesus claims to be the “Son of Man” (v. 62). This is one of Jesus' favorite descriptions of Himself. He is claiming the role of the one Daniel saw (Dan 7:13-14) who would have authority to judge — the perfect, Heavenly Judge and Ruler. How does this add insight to many people leaving Jesus and to Peter's remaining with Jesus?

Living Out the Truth

Where are some areas or teachings of the Bible that Christianity at large can tend to downplay,

ignore, or leave out altogether? (Examples: Jesus as the only way [John 14:6], sexual purity [1 Thessalonians 4:3]). Are there certain biblical ideas that you have downplayed? Why is softening the message dangerous to your own walk with the Lord and to those you may have influence over?

How can we rest in who God is and the truth that Jesus has the words of eternal life (John 6:68)?

Read 2 Timothy 4:3-4. How does this passage resonate with the day we are living in? How do we avoid falling into this trap?

Pray personally for trust in God where you may be wrestling through a certain teaching. Pray together that God would supply boldness to stand for the full truth of God's Word.

Parenting Moment and Family Focus

Read John 6:60-69 together. Discuss the differences between those disciples who left Jesus and Peter's reason for staying with Jesus. How is Peter a positive example for us, especially when there was so much uncertainty in Peter's mind? Pray for each other: to cling to Jesus, the "Holy One of God" who has "the words of eternal life."

Further Study

Read some good articles:

- [Why Is Jesus Called "Son of Man"?](#)
- [Preservation and Perseverance](#), a helpful summary including how different denominations view the topic.

Listen to (or read) an interview: [Can I Lose My Salvation?](#)

For a deeper dive: read this journal article ([Perseverance and Assurance: A Survey and a Proposal](#)) or this book ([Run to Win the Prize: Perseverance in the New Testament](#)).

Read your John Study Journals, looking ahead to next week's Sermon and Text for John 7:1-31: "Remembering His Faithfulness," "His Time," and "Taught by God."