

SMALL GROUP BIBLE STUDY

Miracles: The Purpose, Part 1

John 6:22-34 | Nov 1, 2026

FIRST BAPTIST METUCHEN

John 6:22-34 - [22] On the next day the crowd that remained on the other side of the sea saw that there had been only one boat there, and that Jesus had not entered the boat with his disciples, but that his disciples had gone away alone. [23] Other boats from Tiberias came near the place where they had eaten the bread after the Lord had given thanks. [24] So when the crowd saw that Jesus was not there, nor his disciples, they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum, seeking Jesus.

[25] When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, “Rabbi, when did you come here?” [26] Jesus answered them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, you are seeking me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. [27] Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give to you. For on him God the Father has set his seal.” [28] Then they said to him, “What must we do, to be doing the works of God?” [29] Jesus answered them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.” [30] So they said to him, “Then what sign do you do, that we may see and believe you? What work do you perform? [31] Our fathers ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’” [32] Jesus then said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but my Father gives you the true bread from heaven. [33] For the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.” [34] They said to him, “Sir, give us this bread always.”

OBSERVATION | *What does the text say?*

1. What did the crowd do to find Jesus?

According to John 6:26, what was their actual reason for seeking Him?

2. What does Jesus mean by “the food that endures to eternal life?”

How does He answer the crowd’s question about doing the works of God?

3. Despite witnessing the feeding miracle, what sign did the crowd demand?

How did Jesus correct their understanding of the manna given in the wilderness?

INTERPRETATION | *What does the text mean?*

1. Why did Jesus confront the crowd’s motives rather than simply satisfy their desire for more bread?

What does this reveal about the difference between seeking Jesus for His blessings and seeking Him for who He is?

2. What is the contrast between food that perishes and food that endures to eternal life?

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Why are wealth, recognition, security, and earthly achievements incapable of satisfying our deepest spiritual needs?

3. The crowd asked what works they needed to perform, but Jesus told them to believe in the One the Father had sent. What does this teach us about the difference between earning salvation and receiving it through faith in Christ?

4. Why does Jesus redirect the crowd's attention from Moses and the manna to the true Bread from heaven?

What does this teach us about the purpose of biblical miracles and signs?

APPLICATION | *How should this change us?*

1. *Examining Our Motives:* Why do you personally seek Jesus? Are you more interested in what He can do for you or in knowing, loving, and following Him? What might reveal that your motives are misplaced?

2. *Pursuing Eternal Priorities:* What temporary pursuit—financial security, career advancement, comfort, recognition, or personal success—has the potential to distract you from pursuing Christ and His kingdom?

3. *Trusting Without Demanding More Signs:* Is there an area of your life where you are effectively saying, "Jesus, if You do this for me, then I will trust You"? What would it look like to surrender that expectation and trust Him?

4. *Learning from the Persecuted Church:* Many believers around the world follow Christ despite losing their security, freedom, possessions, and sometimes their lives. What can their faithfulness teach us about loving Jesus above His earthly blessings?

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