

“A Banquet in the Wilderness” Group Study

Signs of Life: **Week 5**

Passage: John 6:1-15

Pastor Ryan Paulson

ICEBREAKER:

1. If you had to choose one type of food that you would eat every day for the rest of your life, what would it be?
2. Share your favorite restaurant recommendation with your group (maybe choose the best recommendation and plan a night out with your group).

As a way to get into the study, try to remember the Sermon Outline from Sunday:

(In case you get stuck, click this link for the filled in outline: [A Banquet in the Wilderness - outline](#))

Our _____ can only be satisfied through _____.

1. Acknowledge your _____.
2. Surrender your _____.
3. Open your _____.

Being filled should cause us to _____, not force _____.



Discover the Way of Jesus

(Every week in these studies, we will ask questions about the Scriptures that try to help us Discover the unique Way of Jesus that is found in the text.

3. Pastor Ryan mentioned the pattern throughout scripture about people who **leave** a certain place in order to **receive** all that God has for them. Can you think of some Biblical examples of this? Then think about your life, have there been times that this principle has been true for you?
4. Read Deuteronomy 8:2-3. Why does God allow us to go through “testing”?



Develop the Heart of Jesus

(This is the part of the study where we work on our own hearts. “How does my character need to grow and change because of this passage?”)

5. Jesus’ original question was, “Where are we to buy bread, so that these people may eat?” In the sermon, Pastor Ryan helped us to see that this is very similar to a question that we all have to answer: “Where are we going to go to find the fulfillment that our soul is longing for?” Where are the more unhealthy places that we are tempted to go to for that fulfillment?
6. Read Psalm 139:7-12 together. Is there any place that you can go where God isn’t there? Is that true today? If so, then how can we become people who learn how to notice God in every part of our life?
7. If you are willing, share a time in your life that you were tested. How have you been able to see God in that?



Live on Mission with Jesus

(This is the part of the study that we ask, “What would God want us to do because of this passage?”)

8. How can we live more like the boy who handed over his lunch? What are the resources that we share?
9. Toward the end of the sermon, Ryan put these words on the screen: “Jesus had temporarily filled their empty bellies, but wanted to eternally satisfy their soul.” What is one thing that you can do this week to “whet your appetite for His banquet”? In other words, what is something you can do to remember where your true satisfaction comes from?

Church Announcements & Info:

Pray for VBS!

We have about 600 kids planning to come out for our Camp Kilimanjaro week of VBS from July 17-21. Please pray for all of our VBS Staff: small group leaders, recreation team, snacks, speakers, security, etc. But mostly pray that these kids would clearly hear the message of Jesus and be able to respond in an age appropriate way.