

The Gospel of John The Bread of Life

Interpreting the Text:

1. Are there significant differences between this account of the miracle stories and their parallels in the Synoptic gospels? What details are unique to John?
2. The translated word for “to eat” when Jesus talks about eating the bread of life (himself) comes from the act of a cow chewing cud, that is, *really* eating. How does this impact your understanding of this passage (6:43-51)?

Applying the Text:

1. What do you make of the attitude of the crowds to Jesus and his miracles? How would you have reacted?
2. In what senses does Jesus become the “bread of life”? How do you understand Jesus as the “bread of life” in your own faith?
3. How does the act of materially feeding people while describing the “bread of life” demonstrate the core of Jesus’ mission? How does it influence our work as followers of Christ?