

Today's Message: "Choosing Turbulence"

"This is the will of God, that you believe in the one he has sent." (John 6:29 TLB)

The Feeding of the 5,000:

Seeing that a large crowd was coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread, so that these people may eat?"⁶ He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he would do.¹⁴ When the people saw the sign that he had done, they said, "This is indeed the Prophet who is to come into the world!"¹⁵ Perceiving then that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, Jesus withdrew again to the mountain by himself. (John 6:5-6, 14-15 ESV)

Walking on Water:

They saw Jesus walking on the sea and coming near the boat, and they were frightened.²⁰ But he said to them, "It is I; do not be afraid."²¹ Then they were glad to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat was at the land to which they were going. (John 6:19-21, ESV)

Three "Truly, Truly":

"Truly, truly, I say to you, you are seeking me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves...²⁹ This is the work of God, that you believe in the one he has sent." (John 6:26,29, ESV)

"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"...³⁴ "Sir, give us this bread always."...³⁵ "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst."⁴⁰ For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day."⁴¹ So the Jews grumbled... (John 6:32, 34-35, 40-41, ESV)

"Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you."⁵⁴ Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life. (John 6:53-54, ESV)

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Pastor Doug Welder

September 12 & 13, 2015

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Offense:

Jesus said these things in the synagogue, as he taught at Capernaum. ⁶⁰ When many of his disciples heard it, they said, "This is a hard saying; who can listen to it?" ⁶¹ But Jesus, knowing in himself that his disciples were grumbling about this, said to them, "Do you take offense at this?. (John 6:59-61, ESV)

After this many of his disciples turned back and no longer walked with him. ⁶⁷ So Jesus said to the Twelve, "Do you want to go away as well?" ⁶⁸ Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You alone have the words of eternal life." (John 6:66-68, ESV)

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Small Group or Personal Reflection Questions:

1. Read the entire chapter of John 6 prior to or as a group. If you were a witness to the three major stories in this chapter, what would have been the most memorable action or words? Why?
2. What do the three stories as a whole teach us about Jesus? What do they teach us about humans?
3. In John 6:66, we read: **After *this* many of his disciples turned back and no longer walked with him.** This will take some vulnerability, but have you ever turned back from following Jesus or been tempted to do so? Why? What were the circumstances? What brought you back or kept you following?
4. Read John 6:14-15. We talked about how sometimes Christians seize or even harpoon the message of Jesus, manipulating or hijacking his message. How have you seen this, experienced this, or done this yourself?
5. We talked about the greek word for "offense" which is skandalizei, similar to our word scandalous. It means a cause of ruin. How does Jesus become an "offense" to people? It may be helpful to read Romans 9:33-34.

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