



Small Group Notes - John 6:1-33 - Don't Be Afraid

Some groups may find the following suggested questions a helpful starting point. Don't feel bound by them, rather work at understanding God's word for yourselves, praying that God will help you live in the light of it.

Introductory Questions

1. Take moment to write a list of the main issues you tend to pray about in your personal prayers.
2. Now together write a list of the main things you pray for as a group when you prayer together.

Into God's Word

Last week we considered the different types of evidence Jesus offers to show his true identity. This week Jesus performs two 'signs' that reveal his true identity further. **Read John 6:1-21.** As you read it listen for the different clues we are given that link these 'signs' to the Exodus.

3. Take a moment to outline how these signs point to the great Exodus rescue. What are we meant to conclude about Jesus?

Jesus' sign is clear. Jesus is the one who has come to rescue us from sin, slavery, judgment and death, to bring us into a relationship with God and provide for us now as we journey towards the promised new creation - no less than the fulfilment of the Exodus. But the crowd fail to see it. They have different expectations for Jesus.

4. Wrong Expectation of Jesus #1 - Read 6:14-15 again.

What do the crowd want from Jesus in these verses? What have they got right and what have they got wrong?

In what ways can we want Jesus to be a political leader to solve our here and now worldly political problems?

How might having this wrong expectation of what Jesus has come to do lead to disillusionment in prayer?

In what way might this then affect the things we pray for?

5. Wrong Expectation of Jesus #2 - Read 6:25-27

Why is it the crowd are following after Jesus? What have they failed to understand?

In what ways can we want Jesus solve our here and now materialistic felt needs?

How might having this wrong expectation of what Jesus has come to do lead to disillusionment in prayer?

In what way might this then affect the things we pray for?

6. Wrong Expectation of Jesus #3 - Read 6:30-33

What is it the crowd are seeking from Jesus?

In what ways can we want Jesus 'show us a sign' that we might continue to believe in him?

How might having this wrong expectation of what Jesus has come to do lead to disillusionment in prayer?

How can we be content in trusting the 'signs' which Jesus has already given?

Drawing it all together

7. This passage challenges us to have a right expectation of what Jesus has come to do. He has come to meet our deepest need of rescue, relationship and entry to the promised new creation. What one encouragement will you take away from all you have seen in John 6 so-far?

Now pray for each other in light of what you have just shared.