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session page

Not Your Mama's Bread

John 6:35-51 | Session 10.32

Before the Session

Facilitator: In advance of the session

- Review today's scripture text and the session activities to help better facilitate the discussion.
- Thoroughly review all the referenced resources for this session in advance.
- Encourage your group to listen to the Faithelement podcast ahead of the next session (Share the link via email or social media)

Context

Show the group "Baking Bread - Some Common Mistakes" and ask:

- - What kitchen mistake do you best remember and why?
- - What is it about homemade bread that people love so much?
- - What are the some of the smells of your grandmother's or mother's kitchen that brings up good memories?
- - Why is it easy to cling to the past as pleasant, good memories and what's wrong with that?

Content

Read [John 6:35-51](#), and watch the Bible Background Video for this session. Continue by asking:

- - Why did John include a passage where Jesus reminds the Jewish leaders of their time in the wilderness and the manna they received, knowing that this memory also would likely spark criticism of how they complained during their Exodus from Egypt?
- - What were some false expectations that Jesus challenged by talking like he does in this passage?
- - What do you think Jesus meant when he indicated that the only people who came to him were the ones God sent?
- - How should we interpret Jesus' claims of never hungering or thirsting in the context of this passage?
- - Given the context of this passage, why do some Christians take part of it so literally?

Closure

Watch this [video interviewing Shane Claiborne](#) and ask:

- Since Shane says that we fear what we don't know, what fears do we have that prevent us from fully living as followers of Jesus?
- - When we hear the story of a child who gets an ice cream cone for his birthday whose reaction was to instantly share all that he has, and we think about Jesus' life and his words in today's passage, how does this inform our understanding of Jesus as Bread of Life?
- - At what points are we open to having someone challenge us in our own journeys of faith?
- - If Jesus came into your sanctuary, and talked about being the bread of life, especially in a way that challenges your past, how would you or your community respond?
- - What would Jesus tell us today we have to do differently to receive bread of life?

Invite the group to contemplate all the ways Jesus is bread of life for them and those they encounter in their daily lives as you share this song from Steve Angrisano.

Close in prayer that God help you share the bread and invite all to the table.

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