



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.
- Have the Bible Background Video ready to view.
- Place nine books in the middle of your meeting area in a "three by three" grid (See Context)
- Listen to the FaithElement podcast for this session.

Intro

Listen to the song from Footloose and ask:

- - What do you think of Mama's advice as given in this song?
- - How could someone still believe those things as a grown man?
- - What things were you told by your friends or parents that you now look back on as being silly and why?

Context

Place nine books on the floor and have a stick or baton ready to point to individual books. You will need an accomplice, who already knows the trick to help you. Have your accomplice leave the room and have a volunteer choose one of the books at random to be the secret book. Your accomplice will come back in and discover which book is the secret book.

The way the trick works: Imagine each small book is a representation of all the books (with all the books being one large book). Once a secret book has been chosen and your accomplice comes back begin by pointing at one of the individual books in the precise location of the secret book as if the individual book represented all the books. (In other words, since you placed the books out in a 3x3 grid, imagine the cover of the first book you choose as a 3x3 grid. The spot you pick is the location of the "secret" book from the books as laid out.) Ask your accomplice if this is the correct book, and continue asking about books until your accomplice correctly identifies the correct book.

When someone believes they have figured it out, let them try and continue until everyone has figured out the trick. Ask: What strategy did you use to get more balls in your bucket than in your opponent's bucket?

- - Why was it so difficult to figure out what was going on in this activity?
- - How did your mind start going in wrong directions to figure it out?
- - When have you thought you understood something, only to realize that you had no clue?
- - What understandings of your faith have recently been challenged?

Content

Read [John 6:22-35](#), and watch the Bible Background Video before asking:

- - What does Jesus claim to be in this passage?
- - Why does he use the image of bread to explain who he is?
- - Why did the Jews not like what Jesus was saying?

- - Why did they doubt that Jesus was who he said he was?
- - What were they expecting from the Messiah?
- - Why didn't Jesus measure up to their expectations?
- - What does Jesus claim will result to someone who eats from the bread, and what does that mean?

Closure

Watch together "[Cartoons Christian Kids Weren't Allowed to Watch](#)" and ask:

- - How did you feel about this video and why?
- - In what ways do you personally get stuck in believing God can only work in a specific way?
- - How many churches have you attended, and what is different about each one?
- - How would you feel if your church changed the way they did things?
- - If Jesus came to make things new, what would you say about a church unwilling to change?
- - When has God worked in your life in a way that was completely surprising?
- - How can we help other people be more open to being surprised by God's working in their lives?

Close this session in prayer.

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