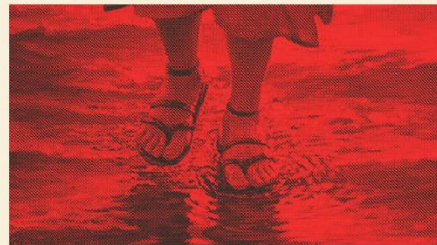
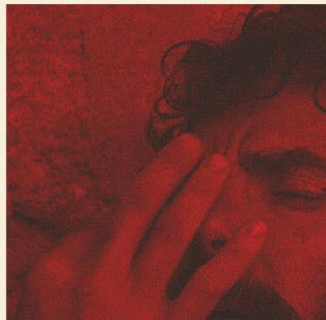


# BEYOND THE SIGNS



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# **Jesus Feeds the 5000**

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# DON'T IGNORE THE SIGNS

YOUR LIFE IS SPEAKING



Shunda Brown

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<sup>30</sup> Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; <sup>31</sup> **but these are written** so that **you may believe** that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that **by believing you may have life** in his name.

Some time after this, Jesus crossed to the far shore of the Sea of Galilee (that is, the Sea of Tiberias), <sup>2</sup> and a **great crowd** of people **followed him** because they **saw** the **miraculous signs** he had performed on the sick. <sup>3</sup> Then Jesus went up on a mountainside and sat down with his disciples. <sup>4</sup> The Jewish Passover Feast was near. <sup>5</sup> When **Jesus looked up** and **saw a great crowd** coming toward him, he said to Philip, "Where shall we buy bread for these people to eat?" <sup>6</sup> He asked this only to test him, for he already had in mind what he was going to do. <sup>7</sup> **Philip** answered him, "**Eight months' wages** would not buy enough bread for each one to have a bite!"

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**John 6:1-7 NIV**

# The Condition of the People

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- Crowd
  - Like Sheep without a Shepherd  
(Mark 6:34)
  - Followed Jesus because they saw  
the Miraculous Signs
-



# The World View

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- Crowd = Opportunity, Cost (Philip)
  - Scarcity drives up value
  - Scarcity drives up fear
-

<sup>8</sup> Another of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, spoke up, <sup>9</sup> "Here is a boy with **five small** barley **loaves** and **two small fish**, but how far will they go among so many?" <sup>10</sup> **Jesus said**, "Have the **people sit down**." There was plenty of grass in that place, and the men sat down, about **five thousand** of them. <sup>11</sup> Jesus then **took** the loaves, **gave thanks**, and **distributed** to those who were seated **as much as they wanted**. He did the same with the fish. <sup>12</sup> When they had all **had enough** to eat, he said to his disciples, "Gather the pieces that are **left over**. Let nothing be wasted."



<sup>13</sup> So they gathered them and filled **twelve baskets** with the pieces of the five barley loaves left over by those who had eaten. <sup>14</sup> After the people saw the miraculous sign that Jesus did, they began to say, "Surely this is the Prophet who is to come into the world." <sup>15</sup> Jesus, knowing that they intended to come and **make him king by force**, withdrew again to a mountain by himself.

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**John 6:13-15 NIV**

# The Significance of the Miracle

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- Crowd – Jesus sees them with Compassion
  - True Value fulfills Eternal Purposes
  - Jesus – Provides Supernatural Providence
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<sup>24</sup> Once the crowd realized that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they got into the boats and went to Capernaum in **search of Jesus**. <sup>25</sup> When they found him on the other side of the lake, they asked him, "Rabbi, when did you get here?" <sup>26</sup> Jesus answered, "I tell you the truth, you are looking for me, **not because you saw miraculous signs** but because you ate the loaves and **had your fill**. <sup>27</sup> Do not work for **food that spoils**, but for food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. On him God the Father has placed his seal of approval." <sup>28</sup> Then they asked him, "**What must we do to do the works God requires?**" <sup>29</sup> Jesus answered, "The work of God is this: **to believe** in the one he has sent."

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**John 6:24-29 NIV**



<sup>30</sup> So they asked him, "What miraculous sign then will you give that we may see it and believe you? What will you do?" <sup>31</sup> Our forefathers ate the **manna in the desert**; as it is written: 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.' <sup>32</sup> Jesus said to them, "I tell you the truth, it is not Moses who has given you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. <sup>33</sup> For the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." <sup>34</sup> "Sir," they said, "from now on give us this bread." <sup>35</sup> Then Jesus declared, "**I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty.**"

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**John 6:30-35 NIV**

# The Challenge of Jesus

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## The Crowd

- They saw the miracles and followed (John 6:2)
  - They sat and experienced the miracle (John 6:10)
  - They now follow because they ate and had their fill (John 6:26)
  - They saw, they experienced but they had yet to believe
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# **The Challenge of Jesus**

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## **The Challenge**

Who do you believe?

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<sup>40</sup> For my Father's will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day. <sup>41</sup> At this the **Jews began to grumble** about him because he said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven." <sup>42</sup> They said, "Is this not Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, 'I came down from heaven'?"

<sup>47</sup> I tell you the **truth**, he who believes has everlasting life. <sup>48</sup> I am the **bread of life**. <sup>49</sup> Your forefathers ate the manna in the desert, yet they died. <sup>50</sup> But here is the bread that comes down from heaven, which a man may eat and not die. <sup>51</sup> I am **the living bread** that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world." <sup>52</sup> Then the Jews began to **argue sharply** among themselves, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?"

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**John 6:47-52 NIV**

# The Declaration of Jesus

<sup>35</sup> Then Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. He who comes to me will never go hungry, and he who believes in me will never be thirsty."

<sup>53</sup> Jesus said to them, "I tell you the truth, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. <sup>54</sup> Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day."

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**John 6:35,53-54 NIV**



# **Bread** meant life itself

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- Daily bread (Matthew 6:11)
  - Man does not live on bread alone (Matthew 4:4)
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...eats my flesh and drinks my blood has  
eternal life...

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**John 6:54 NIV**

<sup>60</sup> On hearing it, many of his disciples said, "This is a **hard teaching**. Who can accept it?" <sup>61</sup> Aware that his disciples were grumbling about this, Jesus said to them, "**Does this offend you?**" <sup>66</sup> From this time **many** of his **disciples** turned back and no longer followed him. <sup>67</sup> "You do not want to leave too, do you?" Jesus asked the Twelve. <sup>68</sup> Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. <sup>69</sup> We believe and know that you are the **Holy One of God.**"

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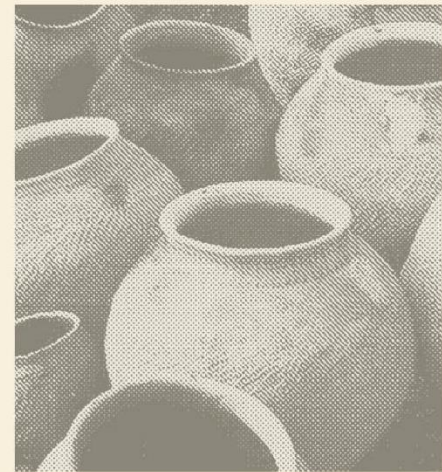
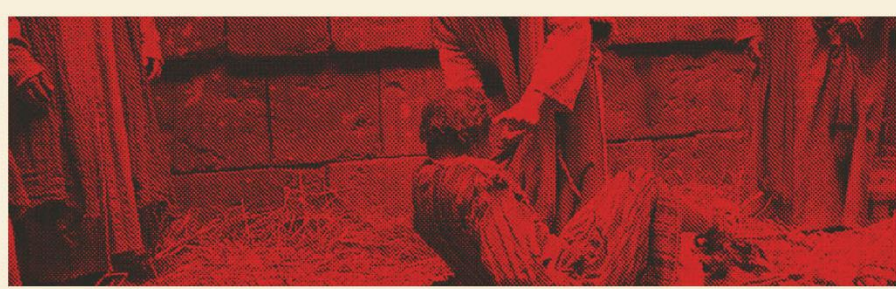
**John 6:60-61,66-69 NIV**



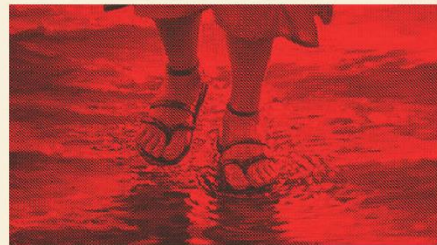
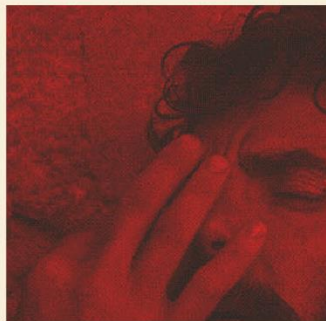
# QUESTIONS

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- How do we follow? – By believing
  - Who do we believe?
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