

**GRACE**  
**SO AMAZING**  
**FOLLOW**

**GRACE SO AMAZING TO FOLLOW JESUS**

Jn. 6:66-69

Jn. 6:66 From that *time* many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him.

67 Then said Jesus unto the twelve, Will ye also go away?

68 Then Simon Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life.

69 And we believe and are sure that thou art that Christ, the Son of the living God.

A couple of weeks ago we began looking at this chapter to consider what the Bible says about the different attitudes and motives of the followers of Christ. Some followed Him due to the sensationalism of His miracles. Some followed Him simply out of selfishness for what they could personally benefit. Some followed Him from a faulty perspective of false supposition. And a few followed Him due to a proper understanding of His purpose and relationship with mankind according to the Scriptures.

We observed the feeding of the 5,000, the only miracle found in all four of the gospels.

Last week, we continued looking at chapter six to observe the submissiveness of the disciples and the ramifications of them following God's will, even though they encountered a horrible storm while following the directions of the Savior. The challenge of the storm revealed the hardness of the disciples' hearts in that they neglected to consider the feeding of the 5,000.

This morning we observe that after calming the storm, the Lord Jesus was confronted by followers who were "seeking for Jesus" (6:24) and approached Him with several questions.

# QUESTIONS FOR JESUS AND HIS POINTED ANSWERS

## 1. HOW DID YOU GET HERE? WE ARE CURIOUS.

Jn. 6:22 The day following, when the people which stood on the other side of the sea saw that there was none other boat there, save that one whereinto his disciples were entered, and that Jesus went not with his disciples into the boat, but *that* his disciples were gone away alone;

23 (Howbeit there came other boats from Tiberias nigh unto the place where they did eat bread, after that the Lord had given thanks:)

24 When the people therefore saw that Jesus was not there, neither his disciples, they also took shipping, and came to Capernaum, **seeking for Jesus.**

25 And when they had found him on the other side of the sea, they said unto him, **Rabbi, when camest thou hither?**

## JESUS ANSWERED POINTEDLY

Jn. 6:26 Jesus answered them and said, Verily, verily, I say unto you, **Ye seek me, not because ye saw the miracles, but because ye did eat of the loaves, and were filled.**

27 **Labour not for the meat which perisheth, but for that meat which endureth unto everlasting life, which the Son of man shall give unto you: for him hath God the Father sealed.**

- ❖ Certain followers had experienced the miracle of the feeding of the 5,000 and were “seeking for Jesus.”

- ❖ These “seekers” knew details about Jesus, (vs. 22-24) even following Him back across the Sea of Galilee.
- ❖ When they found Jesus, they asked Him when He came there. He did not answer them.
- ❖ Rather, Jesus answered them pointedly, “...Verily, verily, I say unto you, **Ye seek me, not because ye saw the miracles, but because ye did eat of the loaves, and were filled.**”

- ❖ Instead of answering an anticipated time, the Lord Jesus, in essence, said that they needed to be honest about their curiosity – “you received selfish satisfaction.”
- ❖ Jesus followed up His answer by giving them a statement about the correct motive for following Him:

Jn. 6:27 Labour not for the meat which perisheth, but for that meat which endureth unto everlasting life, which the Son of man shall give unto you: for him hath God the Father sealed.



**Original Word:** ἐργάζομαι **Part of Speech:** Verb – **Present Imperative**; **Transliteration:** ergazomai  
**Definition:** to search, examine; **Usage:** I work, trade, perform, do, practice, commit, **acquire by labor**. <https://biblehub.com/greek/2038.htm>

- ❖ Jesus commanded them not focus upon the temporal satisfaction.
- ❖ Focus upon eternal values which includes “the gift of grace” according to God’s plan.

Eph. 2:8 **For by grace are ye saved through faith;**  
and that not of yourselves: *it is* **the gift of God:**  
9 **Not of works**, lest any man should boast.

10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ  
Jesus unto good works, which God hath before  
ordained that we should walk in them.

Titus 3:5 **Not by works of righteousness which we  
have done**, but according to his mercy he saved us,  
by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of  
the Holy Ghost;

Rom. 6:23 For the wages of sin *is* death; but **the gift of God *is* eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

- ❖ The religious crowd equated the word “labor” with “works.”
- ❖ The next question is the typical concern of “works’ followers.”

## 2. WHAT WORKS CAN BE DONE TO MERIT GOD'S FAVOR?

Jn. 6:28 Then said they unto him, **What shall we do, that we might work the works of God?**

- ❖ The typical religious followers were not clearly understanding what Jesus meant and immediately thought about their “works.”

# JESUS ANSWERED POINTEDLY

Jn. 6:29 Jesus answered and said unto them, This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent.

- ❖ The only “work” that a person can do to merit God’s favor is to “believe on him whom he hath sent.” Acknowledge God’s program, not your interpretation of it!

Jn. 1:12 But as many as received him, **to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:**

- ❖ True followers of the Lord Jesus Christ are those who believe what the Bible says about salvation being totally dependent upon Him.

Jn. 3:15 That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.

16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that **whosoever believeth in him** should not perish, but have everlasting life. ...

18 **He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already,** because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

**36 He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.**

**Jn. 20:31 But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name.**

**Acts 8:37 And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.**

Rom. 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for **it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth**; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

Rom. 3:22 Even **the righteousness of God *which is* by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe**: for there is no difference:

1 Jn. 5:13 These things have I written unto **you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life**, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.

Jn. 6:47 Verily, verily, I say unto you, **He that believeth on me hath everlasting life.**



- ❖ Compare Jn. 6:47 in other versions and note the difference from the King James Bible.

Jn. 6:47

### New International Version

Very truly I tell you, **the one who believes** has eternal life.

### English Standard Version

Truly, truly, I say to you, **whoever believes** has eternal life.

### New American Standard Bible (NASB 1995, NASB 1977)

Truly, truly, I say to you, **the one who believes** has eternal life.

### Holman Christian Standard Bible

I assure you: **Anyone who believes** has eternal life.

- ❖ The heresy of these versions could be applied to works, Mary, baptism, and the tooth fairy.

## Summary

### ORDER OF EVENTS IN Jn. 6

1. Trip across the Sea of Galilee and feeding of the 5,000, Jn. 6:1-15.

Jesus questions the followers regarding their motive for following. He revealed that some follow to see sensational events; some follow for selfish reasons; some follow Him due to faulty suppositions; and some follow Him because of submission to spiritual truth.

2. Return trip by ship, storm, Jesus walking on the water, and calming the storm, 6:16-21.

Jesus' disciples are tested while following His will, exhibiting consistency in following Him. He revealed His power and protection over His disciples. He gives us calm in the midst of the storm.

3. The religious crowd, "seeking for Jesus," follows Jesus back across the Sea of Galilee, asked questions and, then, misapplied His answer.

4. Jesus explained what the "works of God" were – believe on the Lord Jesus.

## Conclusion

Rom. 10:13 For **whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.**

14 **How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed?** and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?

15 And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!

16 But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Esaias saith, Lord, who hath believed our report?

17 So then **faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.**