Text: John 6:66-71

**John 6:66-71**

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. 70 Jesus answered them, Have not I chosen you twelve, and one of you is a devil? 71 He spake of Judas Iscariot *the son* of Simon: for he it was that should betray him, being one of the twelve.

**Introduction:**

Jesus had just fed the five thousand men with a little boy’s lunch. That evening Jesus sent His disciples into a ship in which they found themselves in the middle of a storm. Then Jesus appeared walking on the water, entered into the ship and the storm calmed.

Those that had been fed the previous day got word where Jesus and His disciples were, so they took a ship to find them. They were interested in another free meal.

Once they find Jesus, He begins to explain to them in a sermon that what they needed was not to be fed food
again, but rather they needed to take care of things spiritually (vss. 26-65). After preaching this message, the Bible says that many of His disciples went back, and walked no more with Him.

Notice:

1. **Personal Interest.**

   A. These followed for selfish reason.

   1. A free meal. (vs. 26)

   **John 6:26**
   
   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.

   B. There are always those that follow the Lord for only themselves, and what they can obtain.

2. **Potent Preaching (vs. 26)**

   **John 6:26**
   
   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.

   **John 6:60**
   
   60 Many therefore of his disciples, when they had heard this, said, This is an hard saying; who can hear it?
A. Preaching will

1. Divide

**Luke 12:51**
51 Suppose ye that I am come to give peace on earth? I tell you, Nay; but rather division:

**Hebrews 4:12**
12 For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

2. Draws

**John 12:32**
32 And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me.

1 Corinthian 1:21
21 For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe.

3. Drives (vs 66)

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

**Matthew 19:21-22**
21 Jesus said unto him, If thou wilt be perfect, go and sell that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come and follow me. 22 But when the young man
heard that saying, he went away sorrowful: for he had great possessions.

4. Depicts
   a. Motive for service
   b. Measure of depth
   c. Magnitude of love for Christ.

5. Directs

   Psalms 119:105
   105 Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

   Psalms 25:4
   4 Shew me thy ways, O LORD; teach me thy paths.

3. PERPLEXING PROBLEM (VS. 66)

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

Illustration:

The heart of most problems is the problem of the heart.

   A. Some go back because:
1. Follow for the wrong reason.

2. Fellowship with the wrong crowd.

3. Fearfulness and faint hearted.

4. **PROBING QUESTION (VS. 67)**

**John 6:67**

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

A. A question to the Christian.

B. A question to be considered.

C. A question of choice.

1. Joshua posed this question.

**Joshua 24:15**

> And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.
5. Prudent Response (vs. 68)

John 6:68

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

A. Peter was saying:

1. You’re all we have.
2. You’re all we need.
3. Our choice is made, and our mind is made up.

B. Who shall we go to for?

1. Salvation
2. Service
3. Satisfaction
4. Solace
5. Supply
6. Safety
6. **POWERFUL TRUTH (VSS. 68-69)**

**John 6:68-69**

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.

Close:

*Will you to go away? If so to whom will ye go?*