

Back to the Basics

Knowing My Savior (4)

Knowing My Savior: John 6 - 9

Memory Verse:
John 6:35, 40

John 6:1-71

As we begin chapter six of John's Gospel, we find Jesus sailing over the Sea of Galilee, which is the Sea of Tiberias. As it happened, a great multitude followed Jesus. When Jesus saw the multitude coming towards Him, He asked Philip about feeding the people. Philip told Jesus that they did not have enough money to feed such a great multitude. Andrew told Jesus about a boy who had five barley loaves and two small fish, but questioned if such a small amount would feed so many people. Jesus said, "*Make the people sit down.*" (v 10) Jesus took the loaves, gave thanks for them, and then distributed them to His disciples. Jesus' disciples then distributed the loaves and the fish. Each man had as much to eat as he wanted. Afterwards, the disciples gathered up the fragments, which filled twelve baskets. When the people saw this miracle, they said, "*This is truly the Prophet who is to come into the world.*" (v 14)

Seeing that the people were poised to take Him and make Him king, Jesus went to the mountain. That evening, Jesus' disciples sailed over the sea toward Capernaum. While out on the water, the disciples saw Jesus walking toward them. After Jesus got into the boat, the boat arrived at land.

On the next day, the people who had heard Jesus the day before sailed to Capernaum to find Him. When they found Jesus they said to Him, "*Rabbi, when did You come here?*" (v 25) Jesus replied, "*Most assuredly, I say to you, you seek Me, not because you saw the signs, but because you ate of the loaves and were filled. Do not labor for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to everlasting life, which the Son of Man will give you, because God the Father has set His seal on Him.*" (v 26-27) Jesus continued to teach the people that they were to believe in Him whom the Father had sent. The people then asked for a sign so that they might believe. Jesus explained to the people that God the Father had sent "*bread from heaven.*" This "*bread of God*" was "*He who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.*" (v 33) The people asked Jesus for this bread. Jesus said to them, "*I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst.*" (v 35)

Jesus continued, saying, "*But I said to you that you have seen Me and yet do not believe. All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out. For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me.*"

This is the will of the Father who sent Me, that of all He has given Me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up at the last day. And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in Him may have everlasting life; and I will raise him up at the last day.” (v 36-40)

The statement that Jesus had been sent from Heaven upset some of the Jews. While they stood questioning, Jesus explained to them that those whom the Father draws to Jesus would hear Jesus. Jesus said, *“It is written in the prophets, ‘And they shall all be taught by God.’ Therefore everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to Me.” (v 45)* Jesus goes on to say that those who believe in Him would have everlasting life because He is the “bread of life.” Jesus is *“the bread which comes down from heaven, that one may eat of it and not die.” (v 50)* Jesus said, *“I am the living bread which came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread that I shall give is My flesh, which I shall give for the life of the world.” (v 51)*

The Jews, not understanding Jesus’ statement said, *“How can this Man give us His flesh to eat?” (v 52)* Jesus continued, saying, *“Most assuredly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no life in you. Whoever eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day. For My flesh is food indeed, and My blood is drink indeed. He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood abides in Me, and I in him. As the living Father sent Me, and I live because of the Father, so he who feeds on Me will live because of Me. This is the bread which came down from heaven — not as your fathers ate the manna, and are dead. He who eats this bread will live forever.” (v 53-58)*

When many of Jesus’ disciples heard His saying, *“Most assuredly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no life in you,”* they did not understand. Some said, *“This is a hard saying; who can understand it?” (v 60)* To them, Jesus said, *“It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life. But there are some of you who do not believe.” (v 63-64)* From this point on, many of Jesus’ disciples no longer walked with Him.

Seeing many of His disciples leave, Jesus asked the twelve whom He had chosen, *“Do you also want to go away?” (v 67)* Simon Peter replied, *“Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Also we have come to believe and know that You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” (v 68-69)* Jesus then said, *“Did I not choose you, the twelve, and one of you is a devil?” (v 70)* In this last statement, Jesus was speaking of Judas Iscariot, the one who would betray Him.

John 7:1-53

Through the course of time, many of the Jewish leaders began to turn against Jesus and His teachings. Because of this, Jesus walked in Galilee instead of Judea, knowing that the Jews were seeking to kill Jesus. Again, the time had come for the Feast of Tabernacles. (This was likely the third Passover feast of Jesus’ ministry.) Jesus’ brothers, not believing Him encouraged Him to go to Judea to make Himself known to the world. Jesus said to His brothers, *“My time has not yet come, but your time is always ready. The world cannot hate you, but it hates Me because I testify*

of it that its works are evil. You go up to this feast. I am not yet going up to this feast, for My time has not yet fully come.” (v 6-9)

After His brothers left to go to Jerusalem, Jesus also went to the feast, but in secret. While the Jews continued to seek Jesus to kill Him, there was “*much complaining among the people concerning Him.*” (v 12) Some of the people said that Jesus was good and others said that Jesus was a deceiver of the people.

Sometime during the middle of the feast, Jesus taught in the temple. The Jews marveled at Jesus’ knowledge. Jesus said to them, “*My doctrine is not Mine, but His who sent Me.*” (v 16) Jesus explained that anyone who willed to do the will of the Father would know the doctrine. He then asked the Jews why they sought to kill Him. The Jews accused Jesus of having a demon. Jesus explained to the Jews that they would circumcise a man on the Sabbath, but they were angry with Him for making a man well on the Sabbath. He told the Jews to judge, not according to appearance, but with righteous judgment.

Some who were listening to Jesus said, “*Is this not He whom they seek to kill? But look! He speaks boldly, and they say nothing to Him. Do the rulers know indeed that this is truly the Christ? However, we know where this Man is from; but when the Christ comes, no one knows where He is from.*” (v 25-27) Jesus then cried out to the people, “*You both know Me, and you know where I am from; and I have not come of Myself, but He who sent Me is true, whom you do not know. But I know Him, for I am from Him, and He sent Me.*” (v 28-29) At this point, the Jews wanted to take Jesus, but they did not act.

Despite the fact that some of the Jews wanted to kill Jesus, there were many people who believed on Him. When the Pharisees heard the crowd talking about Jesus, they sent officers to take Him. Jesus said to the officers, “*I shall be with you a little while longer, and then I go to Him who sent Me. You will seek Me and not find Me, and where I am you can not come.*” (v 33-34)

On the last day of the feast, Jesus cried out to the people, “*If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.*” (v 37-38) Many people were confused regarding who Jesus truly was. Some people said that He was a prophet. Others said that He was the Christ. “*So there was a division among the people because of Him.*” (v 43)

When the officers returned without Jesus, the chief priests and the Pharisees asked, “*Why have you not brought Him?*” (v 45) The officers explained that no man had ever spoken like Jesus. Nicodemus, the one who had gone to Jesus by night, being one of the Pharisees said, “*Does our law judge a man before it hears him and knows what he is doing?*” (v 51) They replied, “*Are you also from Galilee? Search and look, for no prophet has arisen out of Galilee.*” Afterwards, everyone went to his own house.

John 8:28-30

Then Jesus said to them, “When you lift up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am He, and that I do nothing of Myself; but as My Father taught Me, I speak these things. And He who sent Me is with Me. The Father has not left Me alone, for I always do those things that please Him.” As He spoke these words, many believed in Him.

John 8:1-11

After having gone to the Mount of Olives, Jesus returned to the temple and taught the people. During this time, the scribes and Pharisees brought a woman to Jesus, a woman who had been caught in adultery. The scribes and the Pharisees asked Jesus, “*Teacher, this woman was caught in adultery, in the very act. Now Moses, in the law, commanded us that such should be stoned. But what do You say?*” (v 4-5) The Pharisees were testing Jesus, hoping to find something for which they might accuse Him. As they persisted with the question, Jesus said, “*He who is without sin among you, let him throw a stone at her first.*” (v 7) One by one, the accusers of the woman began to leave, being convicted by their own consciences. Jesus asked the woman where were her accusers? Had anyone condemned her? The woman replied, “*No one, Lord.*” Jesus then said to the woman, “*Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more.*” (v 11)

As Jesus continued to teach the people, He said, “*I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life.*” (v 12) The Pharisees said to Jesus that since He bore witness of Himself, His witness was not true. Jesus replied telling the Pharisees that His witness was true because He knew from where He had come and to where He was going. Jesus said to the Pharisees, “*It is also written in your law that the testimony of two men is true. I am One who bears witness of Myself, and the Father who sent Me bears witness of Me.*” (v 17-18) The Pharisees asked Jesus about the whereabouts of His Father. Jesus told the Pharisees that they neither knew Him nor His Father.

Jesus continued by saying, “*I am going away, and you will seek Me, and will die in your sin. Where I go you cannot come.*” (v 21) Jesus explained that He was from above, from heaven, whereas the Pharisees were of this earth. If the Pharisees did not believe in Jesus, then they would die in their sins.

Jesus continued to speak of Himself as having been sent by the Father. He told the Pharisees that the time would come when they would know that Jesus was the Christ sent from the Father. Jesus said, “*When you lift up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am He, and that I do nothing of Myself; but as My Father taught Me, I speak these things. And He who sent Me is with Me. The Father has not left Me alone, for I always do those things that please Him.*” (v 28-29)

As Jesus continued to teach the people, many believed in Him. To those who believed, Jesus said, “*If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.*” (v 31-32) Not perceiving themselves to have ever been in bondage, the people questioned Jesus’ statement about being made free. Jesus explained to the people that they were slaves of sin. However, once they are set free, they would be free indeed.

Jesus went on to explain to the people that if they were Abraham’s children, then they would not have sought to kill Jesus. Jesus said, “*You do the deeds of your father.*” (v 41) The Jews replied saying, “*We were not born of fornication; we have one Father — God.*” (v 41) Jesus told the Jews that if God was their Father, then they would have loved Jesus because Jesus had come from the Father. Jesus accused them, saying, “*You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it.*” (v 44) Jesus had spoken the truth and they had chosen not to believe Him

Again, the Jews accused Jesus of having a demon. Jesus told the Jews that He had no demon, but that He was honoring the Father and they were dishonoring Him. Jesus went on to say, *“If I honor Myself, My honor is nothing. It is My Father who honors Me, of whom you say that He is your God. Yet you have not known Him, but I know Him. And if I say, ‘I do not know Him,’ I shall be a liar like you; but I do know Him and keep His word. Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day, and he saw it and was glad.”* (v 54-56) The Jews questioned how Jesus could have seen Abraham? Jesus said to them, *“Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM.”* (v 58) At this point, they Jews took up stones to throw at Jesus, but Jesus escaped.

John 7:37-38

On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, “If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.”

John 9:1-41

As Jesus continued on His way, He passed a man who had been blind from birth. Jesus’ disciples questioned Jesus as to whose sin had caused this man to be born blind. Jesus explained that sin had not caused this blindness. Instead, this man’s blindness would serve the purpose of revealing the works of God. Jesus mixed His saliva with clay and anointed the man’s eyes. Jesus then told the man to go wash in the pool of Siloam. The man went and washed his eyes and he could see.

When the people saw that this once blind beggar could now see, they questioned whether or not it was truly him. The beggar explained how a man called Jesus had given him his sight. The people then brought the beggar to the Pharisees. The beggar told the Pharisees the story of how his sight was restored. The Pharisees, not believing that the man had been blind since birth, called for the man’s parents. The beggar’s parents confirmed that he had been blind since birth.

Again, the Pharisees asked the beggar about the restoration of his sight. The beggar told the Pharisees that he had already explained what had happened. He then asked them if they wanted to become Jesus’ disciples? The Pharisees reviled the man, saying, *“You are His disciple, but we are Moses’ disciples. We know that God spoke to Moses; as for this fellow, we do not know where He is from.”* (v 28-29) The beggar told the Pharisees that Jesus had to have come from God since God does not hear sinners. If Jesus had not been from God, then Jesus could not have done such a wonderful miracle.

The Pharisees cast the beggar from the temple. When Jesus heard this, He found the man and said, *“Do you believe in the Son of God?”* (v 35) The man replied, *“Who is He, Lord, that I may believe in Him?”* (v 36) Jesus said to the beggar, *“You have both seen Him and it is He who is talking with you.”* (v 37) After this, the beggar declared his belief in Jesus and he worshiped Him.

Jesus then said, *“For judgment I have come into this world, that those who do not see may see, and that those who see may be made blind.”* (v 39) Some of the Pharisees who were with Jesus asked Him, *“Are we blind also?”* (v 40) To them, Jesus replied, *“If you were blind, you would have no sin; but now you say, ‘We see.’ Therefore your sin remains.”* (v 41)

Ten Questions

1. When Jesus saw the multitude coming, what did He ask Philip? _____

2. What did Jesus do when He saw the people poised to take Him and make Him king? _____

3. Jesus said, "It is the _____ who gives life; the flesh profits nothing . . ."
4. In John 7, why did Jesus walk in Galilee instead of Judea? _____
5. What were the people saying about Jesus when there was "much complaining among the people concerning Him"? _____

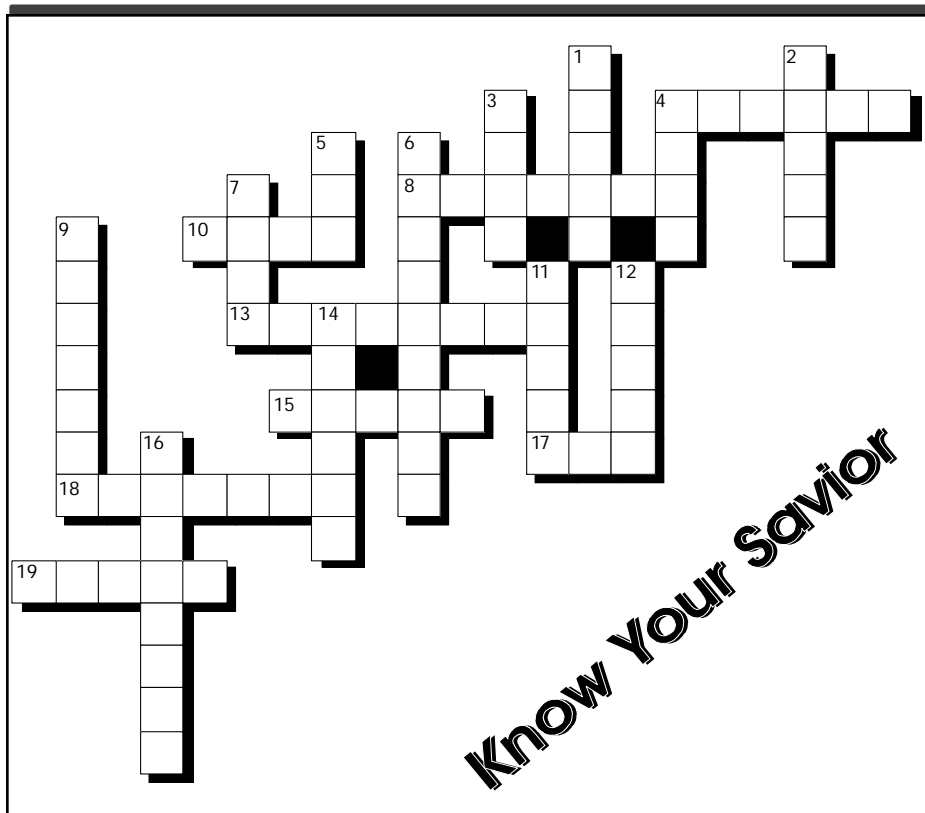
6. Jesus said, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and _____."
7. Who was the Pharisee who had gone to Jesus by night? _____
8. Jesus said, "If you abide in My word, you are My _____ indeed . . ."
9. Jesus told the Jews that they were of their father, the _____.
10. What did Jesus do to the beggar when He healed the beggar of his blindness? _____

True or False

1. T or F : Jesus fed the multitude with two barley loaves and five small fish.
2. T or F : Some people sailed to Capernaum to find Jesus.
3. T or F : The Jews understood Jesus' statement, "I am the living bread which came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever."
4. T or F : Many of Jesus' disciples left Him.
5. T or F : Jesus' brothers told Him to go to Judea and make Himself known to the world.
6. T or F : Jesus condemned the woman caught in adultery.
7. T or F : Jesus said, "I am going away, and you will seek Me, and will die in your sin."
8. T or F : The Jews never accused Jesus of having a demon.
9. T or F : The beggar was blind because of his parents' sins.
10. T or F : Jesus told the beggar to wash in the pool of Siloam.

A Little Fun

(Use the lesson text to answer these questions.)



Across

4. "Did I not choose you, the _____, and one of you is a devil?"
8. "Most assuredly, I say to you, before _____ was, I AM."
10. "If you abide in My _____, you are My disciples indeed."
13. "My _____ is not Mine, but His who sent Me."
15. Jesus said, "I am the _____ of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, . . ."
17. "He who is without _____ among you, let him throw a stone at her first."
18. "If anyone _____, let him come to Me and drink."
19. "You are of your father the _____, and the desires of your father you want to do."

Down

1. "I am the _____ of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have

- the light of life."
2. "If you were _____, you would have no sin; but now you say, 'We see.' Therefore your sin remains."
3. "This is a _____ saying; who can understand it?"
4. "My _____ has not yet come, but your time is always ready."
5. "Do you believe the Son of _____?"
6. People sailed to _____ to find Jesus.
7. "_____, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life."
9. "This is truly the _____ who is to come into the world."
11. This person said, "Make the people sit down."
12. "Teacher, this _____ was caught in adultery, in the very act."
14. "Do the rulers know in deed that this is truly the _____?"
16. "So there was a _____ among the people because of Him."

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