

Mount Olive Wednesday Night Bible Study and Prayer Meeting

October 7, 2020

Pastor Tom asked how we are all feeling recently and what struggles we were having with the opening of church. (This Bible Study took place inside the church with a phone conference option as well.)

John 6: 31 - 37

31 Our fathers did eat manna in the desert; as it is written, He gave them bread from heaven to eat. 32 Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Moses gave you not that bread from heaven; but my Father giveth you the true bread from heaven. 33 For the bread of God is he which cometh down from heaven, and giveth life unto the world. 34 Then said they unto him, Lord, evermore give us this bread. 35 And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst. 36 But I said unto you, That ye also have seen me, and believe not. 37 All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out.

*Jesus had just performed many miracles in front of the Jews but yet they still asked for a sign?!

Verse 31

Our fathers did eat manna in the desert; as it is written, He gave them bread from heaven to eat.

*The Jews said to Jesus that one sign they had in the past (as it is written) was the manna from heaven. Manna meant 'What is this?' It was unexplainable material that spoiled if they gathered more than a days' worth (except for gathering enough for the Sabbath the day before)

*It is good to remember what God has done for you in the past, right?

*Where is the problem with having your faith solely in the past?

*We need to recognize that God is working in our lives all the time. We are blessed everyday, not just in the past. If you start living in the past, you start to die. You have to adapt to your situation, much like how we have had to change our normal worship location recently. (Side note: It was

reported that there were 70 connections online for Sunday's service held in and outdoors. The possibility is there for that to be 100+ people listening in not counting YouTube and conference calls and those present at the church!)

*So, it is good to remember what God has done for you in the past but bad to live there.

Verse 32

Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Moses gave you not that bread from heaven; but my Father giveth you the true bread from heaven.

*When we see the 'Verily, verily' we need to pay close attention to what Jesus is saying - Moses did not make and send the manna, God did! We have to get that right.

*Do not put a person in a place God should be!

*Also note how Jesus called it 'true bread'.

Verse 33

For the bread of God is he which cometh down from heaven, and giveth life unto the world.

*The bread of God is not a physical bread but comes from heaven. Before Jesus was born He was in heaven with His father. So Jesus is talking about himself as the true bread.

*Jesus' purpose was to save the world from sins. Only God can do that and give life.

*Healthy fear keeps us out of trouble, but fear is mostly about the unknown. (much like our fears or struggles with COVID; what will happen to me?)

*But with the assurance that Jesus gives life eternal, it doesn't matter what happens to us.

Verse 34

Then said they unto him, Lord, evermore give us this bread.

*Jews asked Him to give them this bread, even called Him 'Lord' but didn't mean it.

James 1:8

A double minded man is unstable in all his ways.

*Be cautious when you hear a lot of 'God-talking' but see little 'God-walking'. If you never hear the name of Jesus in a church, it's time to find a new church!

Verse 35

And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.

*Jesus tells them - I AM this bread. He that comes - never hungers and he that believes - never thirsts.

Exodus 3: 14 & 15

And God said unto Moses, I Am That I Am: and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I Am hath sent me unto you.

*God met Moses at the burning bush. Moses' purpose was to say to Pharaoh, 'Let my people go'. But Moses kept giving excuses, but God responds, 'I AM THAT I AM'

*This is a statement that only God can make. And now, 1500 years later, Jesus (God) says, 'I AM....' Jesus completes the statement God made long ago.

*Jesus is not the physical bread but the bread is the WORD (Jesus)

Verse 36

But I said unto you, That ye also have seen me, and believe not.

John 20:29

Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed.

*Because you saw me, you believed. Blessed are those who have not seen...that's us!

Verse 37

All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out.

*Come to Jesus. I am not the person I was created to be, but God will change me. We shouldn't hold back, especially at church.

II Timothy 2:19

Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, let everyone that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity.

*The Lord knows those who are His.

I John 2:19

They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would no doubt have continued with us: but they went out, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us.

This verse speaks of those who have fallen away from Jesus.

Philippians 1:6

Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:

*God will not leave you nor will He cast you out.

*May the Lord watch between me and thee,
While we are absent one from the other.*
