

## **Drawn by the Father to the Son** John 6:41-59

Steve Holdaway, LifeSpring Church 07.24.16

Big Idea: When God the Father draws you to God the Son, that's the moment to trust him with your life.

## John 6

<sup>41</sup> So the Jews grumbled about him, because he said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven." <sup>42</sup> They said, "Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How does he now say, 'I have come down from heaven'?" <sup>43</sup> Jesus answered them, "Do not grumble among yourselves. <sup>44</sup> No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him. And I will raise him up on the last day.

<sup>52</sup> The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" <sup>53</sup> So Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. <sup>54</sup> Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day. <sup>55</sup> For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. <sup>56</sup> Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him.

## God will draw you away from a natural mind.

1 Cor. 2:14 ESV

The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned.

God will draw you toward Christ, not around him.

God will draw you to step out and believe.

God will draw you to abide in Christ.

LifeGroup Study Guide John 6: 41-59 Drawn by the Father to the Son

Discover the change in the people's attitude and actions toward Jesus. Discuss the reasons for each one.

John 6:1-2 People followed Him

John 6: 14-15 People began to exalt Him

John 6: 22:24; 27 People began to seek for Him

John 6:41 The Jews began to grumble about Him

John 6:52 The Jews began to argue about Him

John 6:66 Many "disciples" stopped following Him

What similarities do you see between this scene in John 6 and the scenes in Exod. 15:24, 16:2-3 17:3; Num. 14:2; 21:4-6? What is similar or different about Christ's response to the Jews?

Note: When Jesus said <u>I</u> AM the Bread of Life (6:35) the emphasis is on <u>I</u> (ego eimi). When the Jews murmured about Jesus, "whose father and mother <u>we</u> know," the emphasis is on <u>we."</u> "They understood that Jesus was claiming to be deity (God), but they were asserting their own knowledge to be greater.

What happens when in pride we put our own knowledge, perspective, or wisdom above God's?

Is there anything that God has said is true that you are grumbling about or disagree with? What is the answer?

Jesus commanded them to stop murmuring and emphasized their need to trust God by giving three different / interchangeable phrases or word pictures to describe trusting in Him: Come, Believe, Eat & Drink (consume)

They must "Come" to him 6;35, 44 In 6:35 He taught them that trusting is <u>coming</u>

Give an example of how coming to someone is the same as trusting them.

In 6:44 What is the only way they <u>CAN</u> come to the Son? (Only If the Father draws them)

Compare this with John 14:6; 1 John 2:23

-Nobody can come to Christ without the Father
 -Nobody can come to the Father without Christ

What does it mean for the Father to draw someone? (Greek helkuin-drawing to oneself as a possession and almost always implies some resistance; like drawing a net of fish to shore or drawing a sword)

Did you resist the Father's efforts to draw you? Why? What was that like? What finally caused you to surrender? (See Paul's surrender in Acts 9, after he resisted (kicked against the goads) (People resist because the devil has blinded their minds, 2 Cor 4:4, it seems foolish to Gentiles and a stumbling block for Jews, 1 Cor 1:23)

God uses the Word of God (Gospel Rom 1:16) to draw sinners to Christ, who brings sinners to God. He quoted Isa. 54:3 or Jer. 31:33-34: "They shall be taught the Word of God." The key is to <u>listen</u> and <u>learn</u> from the Father, then come to Christ (John 5:24) Why can't you listen and learn while murmuring?

The second word for trusting Christ is **Believe** 6:47 Believe (see 6:35) means to utterly depend. We must believe on or in the Lord Jesus Christ (John 3:16; Acts 16:31) and believe the Word of the Father (John 5:24)

The third is a word picture: **eat and drink** (56-58) This should be no surprise to the Jews because of Isaiah 55:1-7. The key point (He is the Bread of Life) is that ONLY Jesus can satisfy the thirsty and hungry soul (Isa 55:2). What do you do when you are hungry? What does your soul do when it is hungry?

Note: While some churches emphasize that this passage teaches the Lord's supper, that is not what the Lord is emphasizing. He is teaching salvation is by faith alone, and that He is the only one, the only way.

There are two main lessons in this passage: **Come and Go**Since Jesus is the only way to eternal life and satisfies,
Come to Jesus, don't resist the Father's drawing

Go tell others about Jesus, don't resist the Father's Sending (Acts 1:8)