

John 6:1–15

1 After this Jesus went away to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, which is the Sea of Tiberias. 2 And a large crowd was following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing on the sick. 3 Jesus went up on the mountain, and there he sat down with his disciples. 4 Now the Passover, the feast of the Jews, was at hand.

5 Lifting up his eyes, then, and seeing that a large crowd was coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, “Where are we to buy bread, so that these people may eat?” 6 He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he would do. 7 Philip answered him, “Two hundred denarii worth of bread would not be enough for each of them to get a little.” 8 One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, said to him, 9 “There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish, but what are they for so many?” 10 Jesus said, “Have the

people sit down.” Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, about five thousand in number.

11 Jesus then took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated. So also the fish, as much as they wanted. 12 And when they had eaten their fill, he told his disciples, “Gather up the leftover fragments, that nothing may be lost.”

13 So they gathered them up and filled twelve baskets with fragments from the five barley loaves left by those who had eaten.

14 When the people saw the sign that he had done, they said, “This is indeed the Prophet who is to come into the world!” 15 Perceiving then that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, Jesus withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

John 6:1–15

Previous context:
Jesus heals the
invalid. Jews are
upset that Jesus
heals on the
Sabbath and is
making Himself
equal with God.
Jesus confronts
their unbelief.

Characters:

- Jesus
- Disciples —
Andrew
and Philip
- Large crowd—
5,000 “the
people”

A denarius
was a day’s wage
for a laborer.
Perhaps this is
thousands of
dollars in today’s
money

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location:
Sea of Galilee

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Common theme
in John: Signs—
Jesus performed
signs (miracles).
Many people were
more enthralled
by the signs than
Jesus Himself.

mountain, and there he sat down with his
disciples. 4 Now the Passover, the feast of the
Jews, was at hand.

Cultural Word:
Passover—
The Israelites
remembered
how God
redeemed them
from slavery in
Egypt.

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large crowd was coming toward him, Jesus
said to Philip, “Where are we to buy bread, so
that these people may eat?” 6 He said this to

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Theme: Faith—
Jesus is testing
His disciples’ faith

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Jesus:
God of
abundance

- Provider—physical needs
- Miracle worker
- Giver—of more than we can think or imagine

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The people don’t fully understand who Jesus is. They may want Jesus for their agenda rather than what Jesus truly came for: to save them from their sins.

DIG DEEPER

Annotate the Passage

Annotate the same passage you paraphrased by identifying keywords and themes. Highlight or circle keywords and phrases, note the context of the passage, ask questions, define words, connect ideas, write out your prayers, write down your honest thoughts, and note God and His character.

Ashley's Insights**Exodus 16**

1 They set out from Elim, and all the congregation of the people of Israel came to the wilderness of Sin, which is between Elim and Sinai, on the fifteenth day of the second month after they had departed from the land of Egypt. 2 And the whole congregation of the people of Israel grumbled against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness, 3 and the people of Israel said to them, "Would that we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the meat pots and ate bread to the full, for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger."

Characters:

- The whole congregation of Israel
- Moses and Aaron
- The LORD

The people turning away from the LORD

4 Then the LORD said to Moses, “Behold, I am about to rain bread from heaven for you, and the people shall go out and gather a day’s portion every day, that I may test them, whether they will walk in my law or not.” 5 On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather daily.” 6 So Moses and Aaron said to all the people of Israel, “At evening you shall know that it was the LORD who brought you out of the land of Egypt, 7 and in the morning you shall see the glory of the LORD, be-

1 cause he has heard your grumbling against the LORD.

For what are we, that you grumble against us?” 8 And Moses said, “When the LORD gives you in the evening meat to eat and in the morning bread to the full, be-

2 cause the LORD has heard your grumbling that you grumble against him—what are we? Your grumbling is not against us but against the LORD”

9 Then Moses said to Aaron, “Say to the whole congregation of the people of Israel, ‘Come near before

3 the LORD, for he has heard your grumbling.” 10 And as soon as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation

God desired to test them to see if they would listen to Him and obey Him. It’s God saying, “Do you love me? Do you trust me?” John 14:15: “If you love me, keep my commandments.”

4x:
“The Lord has heard your grumbling”

of the people of Israel, they looked toward the wilderness, and behold, the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud. **11** And the LORD said to Moses, **12** **“I**
4 **have heard the grumbling of the people of Israel. Say**
to them, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall be filled with bread. Then you shall know that I am the LORD your God.’”

13 In the evening quail came up and covered the camp, and in the morning dew lay around the camp.
14 And when the dew had gone up, there was on the face of the wilderness a fine, flake-like thing, fine as frost on the ground. **15** When the people of Israel saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. And Moses said to them, “It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat. **16**
1 **This is what the LORD has commanded: ‘Gather of it,**
each one of you, as much as he can eat. You shall each take an omer, according to the number of the persons that each of you has in his tent.’” **17** And the people of Israel did so. They gathered, some more, some less.
18 But when they measured it with an omer, whoever

gathered much had nothing left over, and whoever gathered little had no lack. Each of them gathered as much as he could eat. **19** And Moses said to them, “Let no one leave any of it over till the morning.” **20** But they did not listen to Moses. Some left part of it till the morning, and it bred worms and stank. And Moses was angry with them. **21** Morning by morning they gathered it, each as much as he could eat; but when the sun grew hot, it melted.

22 On the sixth day they gathered **twice as much bread**, two omers each. And when all the leaders of the congregation came and told Moses, **23** he said to **2** them, “**This is what the LORD has commanded:** ‘Tomorrow is a day of solemn rest, a holy Sabbath to the LORD; bake what you will bake and boil what you will boil, and all that is left over lay aside to be kept till the morning.’” **24** So they laid it aside till the morning, as Moses commanded them, and it did not stink, and there were no worms in it. **25** Moses said, “Eat it today, for today is a Sabbath **to the LORD**; today you will not find it in the field. **26** Six days you shall gather

it, but on the seventh day, which is a Sabbath, there will be none.”

27 On the seventh day some of the people went out
 ! to gather, but they found none. 28 And the LORD
 said to Moses, “How long will you refuse to keep my
commandments and my laws? 29 See! The LORD has
 given you the Sabbath; therefore on the sixth day
 he gives you bread for two days. Remain each of
 you in his place; let no one go out of his place on
 the seventh day.” 30 So the people rested on the
 seventh day.

31 Now the house of Israel called its name manna. It
 was like coriander seed, white, and the taste of it was
 like wafers made with honey. 32 Moses said, “This is
 3 what the LORD has commanded: ‘Let an omer of it be
 kept throughout your generations, so that they may
 see the bread with which I fed you in the wilderness,
 when I brought you out of the land of Egypt.’” 33 And
 Moses said to Aaron, “Take a jar, and put an omer
 of manna in it, and place it before the LORD to be

Manna=
 “What is it?”
 The bread was
 not what they
 had expected it
 to be like.

kept throughout your generations.” 34 As the LORD

4 commanded Moses, so Aaron placed it before the testimony to be kept. 35 The people of Israel ate the manna forty years, till they came to a habitable land. They ate the manna till they came to the border of the land of Canaan. 36 (An omer is the tenth part of an ephah.)

Discover the Meaning

What did it mean for the original audience? Conclude in one sentence what the text meant for them in their day.

Ashley's Insights

Moses recounts the historical story of the Israelites complaining against God in the wilderness. God heard their complaints and provided for them manna from heaven every morning for forty years in the wilderness. God faithfully provided for His people, showing grace and steadfast love even when they themselves were stubborn, grumpy, and disobedient.

What does it mean for us today? What are the differences and similarities you share with the original audience?