

That You May Believe

Developing A Faith That Lasts

John 6:60-71

God has a particular race for you to run – finish it well!

“Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.”

(Hebrews 12:1–2)

LEARN FROM THOSE WHO DID NOT LAST

There are 5 different responses to Jesus’ bread of life teaching:

1. Seeking (22-40)
2. Murmuring (41-51)
3. Striving 52- 59
4. Departing 60-62
5. Confessing 63-71

There is a huge difference between _____ the truth and _____ about the truth!

An honest question from a seeking heart always gets an answer from God

Grumbling will always keep us from God’s promised land in our lives

Hearing God’s word always leads to a _____ in the heart of those who are listening. Either our hearts grow harder or softer.

It is amazing how often people missed what Jesus was saying because they took Him too literally.

Two simple things to never forget about Jesus' words (63)

- They are _____
- They are _____

Don't stop listening before God gives His _____

What kept those who ate the bread and fish from eating the bread of life?

- They never moved beyond _____ to _____
- They never looked past the _____ to see the _____
- The needs that drew them to Jesus eventually _____ them from Jesus

Almost as if they were saying: "Feed me, but do not lead me"

It was not the teaching that was hard... it was their _____

"Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls."

(Matthew 11:28–29)

- The truth is always hard for those who think that Jesus Christ will settle for _____ than He demands
- The truth is always hard for those who think that Jesus Christ should ask for _____ than He desires

LEARN FROM THOSE WHO DID LAST

Jesus WILL ask you... “You do not want to leave too, do you?”

1. Where Else? “Where would we go?”

Want to last? Look at the _____ to Jesus honestly!

2. What Else? “You have the words of eternal life”

Want to last? Listen to the _____ of Jesus regularly.

3. Who Else? “You are the Holy One of God”

- We Believe it
- We know it

Want to last? Confess your _____ in Jesus openly

Peter’s confession would have been a wonderful ending... but would not have told the whole truth.

One Of The 12! What does that tell us?

- You can fellowship with the disciples of Jesus and still not last
- You can be close to the activities and words of Jesus and still not last
- You can participate in the miracles and work of Jesus and still not last

There is only one way to guarantee a faith that lasts: Stay close to _____ (Personal Relationship)

Spiritual disciplines are not how you _____
God's love; they are how you _____ it

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Making It Personal:

- How have I responded to God's greatest miracle of all, His provision for my sin and separation from Him through Jesus Christ? Have I responded by turning from my sin and trusting Christ with my past, present and future?
- How will I order my life in order to stay close to Jesus?
- Who can I share these truths with?