

## 1. Get Acquainted: Icebreaker, Pick one

When did you want or desire (hungry) for something or someone and were not satisfied once you got it?

- Possession: A toy for Christmas during your childhood years?
- Achievement: Make a team, accomplish a task, win an award was all you had hoped but it left a lot to be desired?
- Relationship in Middle or High School: what relationship never accomplished what you had hoped?

## 2. Worship: God for all His Signs!

Tim worked hard to distinguish between a mighty deed/miracle which many people experienced and sign which is an extraordinary work of God that creates belief and trust in God, the Father and the work of His Son Jesus.

Think back through the decades of your life and share a mighty deed that God did that did NOT result in trust in Him. One you took for granted.

TimO's Example: Mighty work of God - Growing up in a loving family with wonder-filled Christian brothers and sisters and a Mom and Dad that loved me. I completely took them for granted.

Think again through the decades of your life and share a sign, an extraordinary work of God that caused you to believe and trust in Him as your loving and intimate Heavenly Father.

TimO's Examples:

The gift of Tina Tucker as my wife was an extraordinary work of God that caused me to believe more. I remember holding her hand or staring across the table and knowing I was looking at a miracle of God's kindness to me.

The opportunity to work for my hero and brother Rick in his construction company. I loved it and felt like it was the perfect work and environment for me to be healed and restored after years and years of selfish sinning.

## 3. Kingdom Centered Prayer: Every person in Heaven wants you to believe on Jesus and every person in Hell is begging for you to believe/trust in Jesus.

Hosts of Heaven want you to believe! List some of the reasons those in heaven want you or would encourage you to believe on Jesus. Worship God from the list you make.

Hordes in Hell are in anguish and suffering but they also, every one of them, are begging you to give your heart to Jesus so that you will escape the pain of Hell to enjoy the wonders of Heaven. List the reasons they would give to try and convince you to trust Jesus. Worship God from the list you have made of what Jesus experienced so you don't have to.

#### 4. Sermon Reflection:

**John 6:25-34 (ESV)** <sup>25</sup> When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, “Rabbi, when did you come here?” <sup>26</sup> Jesus answered them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, you are seeking me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. <sup>27</sup> Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give to you. For on him God the Father has set his seal.” <sup>28</sup> Then they said to him, “What must we do, to be doing the works of God?” <sup>29</sup> Jesus answered them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.” <sup>30</sup> So they said to him, “Then what sign do you do, that we may see and believe you? What work do you perform?” <sup>31</sup> Our fathers ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’” <sup>32</sup> Jesus then said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but my Father gives you the true bread from heaven. <sup>33</sup> For the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.” <sup>34</sup> They said to him, “Sir, give us this bread always.”

<sup>35</sup> Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst. <sup>36</sup> But I said to you that you have seen me and yet do not believe. <sup>37</sup> All that the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never cast out. <sup>38</sup> For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will but the will of him who sent me. <sup>39</sup> And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. <sup>40</sup> For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day.”

Intro: What are you like when you are hungry? Starving?

- Give an example of a time when you were hungry for God but tried to satisfy yourself on something He had made or with something else.
- Think of a time recently when someone came to you with hunger for God but you tried to problem solve with words of wisdom. Why do we do that? Why don't we stop and pray seeking the God solution rather than the man fixing?

#### Impress Us!

- Having eaten their fill, the crowds demand a sign from Jesus. What drives them?
- The crowds state that manna in the wilderness was from Moses and Jesus says it was from Heaven. What is a trial or blessing that you consider its origin as from earth and have not connected it to heaven? Why are we so earthy?
  - Stop and pray thanking God for his control of all events and people. Confess your reluctance to connect all things to the throne room of Grace. Praise God for His various trials and overwhelming blessings.
- Does God satisfy you? How?
- What more would God have to do for you to love and follow him?
  - Stop and ask him right now to do it.

The Lord provides!

- Made for an infinite God, we have an infinite appetite!
  - How has your dissatisfaction with stuff driven you to the love of God?
- How has the Lord provided for you so that you want to love and serve him?

Come, Look, Believe

- What does Jesus offer that makes you desire Him above all else?
- As the dough is crushed, so Jesus was crushed so that we might be saved!
  - Whose agenda was crushed so that you might hear the Gospel?
  - What is Holy Spirit asking you to set aside so that you can share the life-changing story of Jesus with someone you love this Holiday Season?
- Designed Needy and loving every minute of it!
  - How is Holy Spirit helping you realize that you don't just need a wedding garment for the Wedding Feast of the Lamb but you need a new heart to be adopted into His Family?
- Do you live amazed at what you see as you now look at your Heavenly Father through the Jesus lens? What more do you need to see?

5. Mission:

- What mission does God have for you during this Christmas season?
- How can we pray for each other?
- Pray for our friends to discover the true bread from Heaven.
- Pray for Crucial Christian Conversations for all of us this Christmas season!