

**“Seeking For Jesus”**  
**John 6:22-29**

**Introduction:**

1. Let's Turn Back In Our Bibles:
  - To John 6 - Where:
    - This Morning - We Come To:
      - A New Day:
        - In The Life & Ministry:
          - Of Jesus!
  - A New Day:
    - After The Long Day & Long Night:
      - That We Looked At:
        - From 6:1-21 - That Were Filled:
          - With Miracles & Signs:
            - That Jesus Used To Further Prove He Was “Christ, The Son Of God!” (20:31)
  - The *Day* Before:
    - Jesus Gave A Crowd Of Followers A Sign:
      - By Feeding Over 5,000 People:
        - With Just 5 Loaves Of Bread:
          - And Two Fish!
            - And:
  - The *Night* Before:
    - Jesus Gave His Closest Followers A Sign:
      - When They Were Going Through:
        - A Time Of Deep & Dark Distress:
          - On The Sea Of Galilee!
    - By First:
      - Walking To Them:
        - In The Middle Of A Storm!
    - And Then - By:
      - Transporting Them:
        - To The Other Shore
          - Safe And Sound!
  - On Another Occasion:
    - The Disciples Marveled At Jesus:
      - And Exclaimed:
        - “What manner of man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey him!” (Matthew 8:27)
2. Well - When We Come To:
  - 6:22 - Even Though Jesus Had:
    - Dismissed The Crowd:
      - The Previous Day - Many In That Crowd:
        - For One Reason Or Another:
          - Stayed Where They Were!
  - And So - John Picks Up The Story:
    - By Telling Us - 6:22-29 - “The day following, when the people which stood on the other side of the sea saw that there was none other boat there, save that one whereinto his disciples were entered, and that Jesus went not with his disciples into the boat, but that his disciples were gone away alone; / (Howbeit there came other boats from Tiberias nigh unto the place where they did eat bread, after that the Lord had given thanks:) / When the people therefore saw that Jesus was not there, neither his disciples, they also took shipping, and came to Capernaum, seeking for Jesus. / And when they had found him on the other side of the sea, they said unto him, Rabbi, when camest thou hither? / Jesus answered them and said, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Ye seek me, not because ye saw the miracles, but because ye did eat of the loaves, and were filled. / Labour not for the meat which perisheth, but for that meat which endureth unto everlasting life, which the Son of man shall give unto you: for him hath God the Father sealed. / Then said they unto him, What shall we do, that we might work the works of God? / Jesus answered and said unto them, This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent!”
3. So - From These Verses:

- After That Long Day & Night:
  - We Have A Crowd:
    - Still On The:
      - North-Eastern Side Of:
        - The Sea Of Galilee!
          - In A “Desert Place!”
  - While - Jesus & His Closest Disciples:
    - Made Their Way To The:
      - North-Western Side - Even:
        - To The Sea-Side Town Of Capernaum!
- And - Here - We Can See Even More:
  - The Big Difference Between:
    - The Crowd - And:
      - Those Close To Jesus!
  - And Even - What Makes Someone:
    - Just A Temporary Follower:
      - Of Jesus - Or:
        - A True Follower!

4. In 6:24 - John Tells Us That:
- The Crowd Was Still:
    - “Seeking For Jesus!”
      - But - Is That All It Takes:
        - To Be His Disciple?
  - As We Go Through These Verses:
    - I Want You To Consider With Me:
      - Four Things - When It Comes To:
        - Seeking & Following Jesus!
    - And - See What It Takes To Make:
      - A True Disciple Of Jesus Christ!
        - And - Discover:
          - What Kind Of Disciple:
            - Are You?

\* First - Consider With Me:

**1. *The Means Of Seeking Jesus!***

- That We Learn About - From 6:22-24:
  - Where - In A Rather Wordy Way - John Tells Us That:
    - When Christ & The Crowd:
      - Were On Opposite Sides Of The Sea:
        - The Crowd Had No Idea:
          - Where Christ Was!
  - So - The Night Before:
    - The Crowd Didn’t See Jesus:
      - Get Into The Single Boat That Was There:
        - With His Disciples!
    - But - In The Morning:
      - Jesus Was Nowhere To Be Found!
  - Now - If You Remember:
    - How Did The Crowd:
      - Get To Jesus - In That “Desert Place” In:
        - The First Place?
          - They Walked!
      - And - When Jesus Saw Them:
        - Mark Tells Us That:
          - “He was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd!” (Mark 9:36)
  - So - Jesus Spent That Whole Day:
    - Teaching Them!
    - Touching Them! And:

- Tending To Them!
  - Even To The Point Of:
    - Feeding Them!
    - And Now - He Was Gone! But - They Wanted More!
- So - Since Other Boats Were Now There:
  - They - 6:24 - “Also Took Shipping, And Came To Capernaum, Seeking For Jesus!”
  - Now - How Was It:
    - That The Crowd:
      - Was Able To Keep “Seeking For Jesus” So Quickly?
  - It Was Because Of:
    - The Means Provided To Them By God:
      - In His Own Providence!
      - We See This In:
- The Ships:
  - That Were There That Morning!
    - Even The Ships:
      - That Came - 6:23 - “From Tiberias Nigh Unto The Place Where They Did Eat Bread, After That The Lord Had Given Thanks!”
  - One Of The Points:
    - John Is Making In These Verses:
      - Is That - The Night Before:
        - There Was Only 1 Boat!
        - The Disciples’ Boat:
          - But That Ship Had Sailed!
      - But In The Morning:
        - There Were Many Boats:
          - And They Were Ready To Be Filled With:
            - Passengers From The Crowd!
  - And - The Crowd:
    - Took That Providential Opportunity:
      - To Keep “Seeking For Jesus!”
        - But - How Did The Ships Get There? How Did The Ships Know Where To Go?
      - Perhaps It Was Because Of:
- The Storm!
  - The Storm That Took Place The Night Before!
    - Not Told For Certain:
      - But - Some Of Those Ships:
        - May Have Tried To Get Out Of The Storm:
          - And Just Happened To Secure Themselves By That Very Shore!
      - Or - Some Of Those Ships:
        - Might Have Been Blown Over To That Shore!
  - Either Way - The Ships Were There:
    - Right Where The Crowd Needed Them To Be:
      - After That Great Storm:
        - In The Night!
- And - The Crowd Took That Opportunity:
  - To Keep “Seeking For Jesus!”
    - What Was True For Them:
      - Will Be True For You:
        - If You Are A True Disciple Of Jesus Christ!
      - You Will Strive To Use:
        - Any & All Opportunities:
          - Given To You:
            - To Get Closer To Jesus!
  - Just Think Of All The Opportunities:
    - God Has Put In Your Path:
      - To Be Jesus’ Disciple!
      - He Gave You:

- His Word!
- He Gave You:
  - His Son!
  - He Gave You:
    - The Gospel!
- All Of This - So That:
  - You Might Be Saved!
- But He Also Has Put In Your Path:
  - So Much More:
    - To Get Closer To Christ!
    - His Church / His Means Of Grace!
- A True Disciple:
  - Will Use Every Opportunity:
    - To Keep “Seeking For Jesus!”
    - Even When It Is A Storm!
    - Is This True For You?
- It Was God:
  - Who Gave The Crowd:
    - The Means:
      - To Keep “Seeking For Jesus!”
      - And He Still Does The Same:
        - For You!
  - What Are You Doing:
    - With Those Opportunities?

\* But Then - Second - Consider:

## 2. ***The Motive For Seeking Jesus!***

- That Is - Your Motive - For Seeking Jesus!
  - When The Crowd Finally Made It To:
    - Capernaum - According To 6:59:
      - They Found Him In The Synagogue!
    - And So - They Asked Him - 6:25 - “Rabbi, when camest thou hither?”
      - They Might Have Asked Him How & Why As Well!
        - But John Only Records This Question - “When?”
  - But - Instead Of Giving Them:
    - The Answer:
      - They Wanted To Hear!
        - Once Again - Jesus Gave Them:
    - The Answer:
      - They Needed To Hear!
        - 6:26 - “Jesus answered them and said, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Ye seek me, not because ye saw the miracles, but because ye did eat of the loaves, and were filled!”
  - It Was Certainly:
    - A Good Thing:
      - That They Were “Seeking For Jesus!”
        - But - What Was More Important:
          - Was Their Motive & The Reason They Were Doing So!
    - You See - Through This Passage:
      - The Motives Of The Crowd:
        - May Have Shifted!
  - Back In 6:2 - The Crowd May Have Followed Jesus:
    - Out Of A Good Motive!
      - They Followed Him - “Because they saw his miracles which he did on them that were diseased!”
        - Not Necessarily An Improper Motive!
    - It Was Certainly:
      - A Mixed Multitude:
        - With Mixed Reasons:
          - For Following Jesus!

- But - There Was A Great:
    - Hope For Healing:
      - In That Crowd! And:
        - Perhaps It Was For:
          - The Good Of Someone They Loved!
  - But - What About Now?
    - Once Again:
      - Jesus Uses The Phrase:
        - “Verily, Verily, I Say Unto You!”
    - Jesus Knew Them - And:
      - The Truth About:
        - Their Motives:
          - And Lays Them Bare!
- In That They Were Following Jesus:
  - Out Of A Greedy Motive!
    - Instead Of Hope:
      - For Healing:
        - Of Others!
    - They Had A Motive:
      - For More:
        - For Themselves!
  - And - They Didn’t Want More:
    - Of Christ:
      - Which Was What:
        - The Miracle & Sign:
          - Was Really For!
    - They Just Wanted More:
      - Of His Miraculous Provision:
        - And Food!
  - They Weren’t Seeking For Jesus:
    - For What He Came:
      - To Give! They Were Seeking For Jesus:
        - For Only What They:
          - Could Get!
    - And - That Makes All The Difference!
- Johann Lange Once Wrote:
  - “Instead Of Seeing In The Bread The Sign, They Had Seen In The Sign Only The Bread!”
    - And That Became:
      - Their Sole Motive:
        - For Seeking For Jesus!
  - What Is Your Motive:
    - For:
      - Believing In Jesus?
      - Seeking For Jesus?
      - Following Jesus?
  - Be Honest! Because:
    - Jesus Already Knows:
      - The Very Truth:
        - Of Your Heart & Motive!
  - Some Seek For Jesus:
    - For What They Can Get:
      - To Satisfy:
        - Their Flesh!
    - And - If That Is Your Motive:
      - You Will Only Be:
        - A Temporary Disciple:
          - Like So Many In This Crowd!
  - But - If You Seek For Jesus:
    - For What He Came to Give!
      - To Satisfy:

- Your Soul!
- This Is The Motive:
  - That It Takes:
    - To Be A True Disciple:
      - Of Jesus Christ!
- So - Are You Taking Advantage:
  - Of The Means:
    - God Has Given You:
      - To Follow Jesus?
- And - Do You Possess:
  - The Right Motive:
    - To Be A True Disciple:
      - Of Jesus?
  - Paul's Motive - Found In:
    - Philippians 3:10 - "That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death!"

\* But Then - Third - Consider Also:

### 3. *The Meaning Of Seeking Jesus!*

- Which Is What Jesus Deals With Next:
  - In 6:27 - When Jesus Admonishes The Crowd:
    - "Labour not for the meat which perisheth, but for that meat which endureth unto everlasting life, which the Son of man shall give unto you: for him hath God the Father sealed!"
  - Think About All The Effort It Took:
    - For The Crowd:
      - To Find Jesus:
        - Just To See If He Would Feed Them Again:
          - In Some Miraculous Way!
  - In Fact - I've Often Wondered:
    - When I Read Accounts Like This:
      - In John - Did Any Of These People:
        - Even Have Jobs?
    - If They Had Put:
      - The Same Kind Of Effort:
        - Into Their Work - As They Did:
          - Looking For Jesus:
            - Their Pantries Would Have Been Full!
  - And So - Jesus Addresses:
    - Their "Labor" And "Work!"
      - And - He First Deals With:
- Your Physical Needs!
  - "Labor Not For The Meat / Food Which Perisheth!"
    - Now - We All Know That:
      - Life Is Filled With:
        - This Kind Of Labor!
    - And - It Is Necessary!
      - Even Paul Tells Us That:
        - "If Any Would Not Work, Neither Should He Eat!" (2 Thessalonians 3:10)
  - But - As Important As:
    - Your Physical Needs Are:
      - If You Put All Of Your Effort:
        - Into That Kind Of Provision:
          - You Will Have Wasted Your Life!
  - Because - Physical Food:
    - Is Temporary - And Can Quickly:
      - Spoil & Perish! **IE:** Shelf Life Of Food!
        - But - Instead - Jesus Adds:
          - Look To:
- Your Spiritual Needs!

- 6:27b - “But - Labor - For The Meat Which Endureth Unto Everlasting Life!”
    - Of Course - Jesus Is Here:
      - Talking About Spiritual Meat / Food!
        - Which Is Worth Putting:
          - All Your Effort:
            - Into Obtaining!
    - A Bit Later - Jesus Will Even:
      - Call Himself:
        - The “Bread Of Life!”
          - But - When You Think About The Spiritual Provision Of God:
            - Jesus Tells Us That:
  - There Is Sustenance:
    - In This Spiritual Meat!
      - It “Endureth!”
        - Everything Else Will Perish:
          - But Not His Meat!
    - This Is The Kind Of Meat:
      - Worth Your Work & Labor! Also:
        - Jesus Says That:
  - There Is Satisfaction:
    - In This Spiritual Meat!
      - Because It “Endureth Unto Everlasting Life!”
        - Compare That To The:
          - Food You’ll Eat Today!
    - This Is The Kind Of Meat:
      - Worth Your Attention & Action! Also:
  - There Is Success:
    - In This Spiritual Meat!
      - Because - 6:27 - It Is That:
        - “Which The Son Of Man Shall Give Unto You!”
    - When You Labor For:
      - This Spiritual Meat:
        - Jesus Himself Is The One:
          - Who Gives Provides It To You, Along With All Of Its Benefits! Also:
    - There Is Great Security:
      - In This Spiritual Meat!
        - Since - Also In 6:27 - It Is Jesus:
          - Who “God The Father Sealed!”
      - And Possesses:
        - The All The Authority & Ability:
          - To Provide His Promises To You & To Me!
- Now - With All Of This Being Said:
  - What Do Most People:
    - Still Do - With Their Lives:
      - In This World?
    - They “Labor For The Meat Which Perisheth!” (6:27)
      - And - This Meat:
        - Will Only Get You So Far!
  - But - What Do True Disciples:
    - Of Jesus Christ Do?
      - They “Labor For The Meat Which Endureth!”
        - And This Is A Spiritual Pursuit:
          - With Eternal Results!
  - So - What Kind Of Disciple:
    - Are You?
  - Are You Taking Advantage:
    - Of The Means & Opportunities:
      - God Has Given You:
        - To Follow Jesus?

- Do You Possess:
  - The Right Motive:
    - To Be A True Disciple:
      - Of Jesus?
- And - Are You Pursuing:
  - The Right Meat:
    - That Will Sustain You:
      - Forever?
- Well - When Confronted With:
  - The True Meaning Of Discipleship:
    - The Crowd Still Struggled:
      - To Think Outside:
        - Their Own Physical Needs!
- So - They Started A Dialog With Jesus:
  - That Will Take Us Through 6:59!
    - But - We Will Only Look At:
      - The Question & Answer Found In 6:28-29 - Where Jesus Provides:

#### 4. *The Measure Of Seeking Jesus!*

- Because - While Thinking Exclusively In:
  - Physical Terms - They Ask Jesus:
    - 6:28 - "What shall we do, that we might work the works of God?"
      - Jesus Said - "Labor!"
        - So - They Thought - "Labor!"
  - And - What Other "Labor":
    - Did They Have To Do:
      - In Order To Accomplish:
        - God's Works - Along With:
          - The Blessings That Go Along With It!
  - Perhaps - They Were Even:
    - Taken Back:
      - At The Thought That:
        - They Needed To Do More:
          - Than They Were Already Doing!
    - By - Trying To Keep:
      - The Commandments Of God!
        - So - To Measure Up To God's Standard:
          - They Could Only Think About Their:
  - Personal Ambition!
    - But - To Answer Their Question - And:
      - To Clarify Their Misunderstanding:
        - In 6:29 - Jesus Patiently:
          - "Answered and said unto them, This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent!"
    - The One Thing They Needed:
      - In Order To Move From:
        - The Crowd - To Become:
          - Close To Jesus:
            - As True Disciples:
              - Was Faith! And:
  - Personal Acceptance:
    - Of Jesus As:
      - "Him Whom He Hath Sent!"
  - This Is The Measure:
    - Of A True Disciple Of Jesus Christ!
      - You Simply But Sincerely Believe In:
        - Who Was Sent!
        - When He Was Sent! And:
        - Why He Was Sent!



- And - When You Believe:
  - It Isn't A Work:
    - That You Do For God!
  - It Is A Work:
    - That God Does In You!
  - Matthew Henry:
    - "The Work Of Faith Is The Work Of God!"
- And - This Is How You "Labor" For:
  - The "Meat That Endureth Unto Everlasting Life!"
  - You Just Believe!

**Conclusion:**

1. Jesus Does Not Want You:
  - To Remain Part Of The Crowd:
    - Of This World!
      - He Wants You To Get:
        - Closer & Closer To Him:
          - As A True Disciple!
2. So - To Do So:
 

What Does It Take?

  - Taking Advantage:
    - Of The Means & Opportunities:
      - God Has Given You:
        - To Follow Jesus!
  - Possess:
    - The Right Motive:
      - To Be A True Disciple:
        - Of Jesus!
  - Pursue:
    - The Right Meat:
      - That Will Sustain You:
        - Forever!
  - And - To Do This:
    - Just Believe In The Lord Jesus Christ!
      - Because Faith Is The Proof:
        - That The "Work Of God" Is At Work In You!
        - Hebrews 11:6 - "Without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him!"
3. This Is What It Takes:
  - For You - Not Only To:
    - Be "Seeking For Jesus" - Like The Crowd!
      - But To Find Him! And:
        - Have Fellowship With Him!
          - And Be Close To Christ:
            - As A True Disciple:
              - Forever!
  - Deuteronomy 4:29:
    - If - "Thou shalt seek the LORD thy God, thou shalt find him, if thou seek him with all thy heart and with all thy soul!"
      - Keep "Seeking For Jesus!"

**Grace Baptist Church**  
**Stephen Elmer, Pastor**  
 4245 North 200 West  
 Greenfield, Indiana 46140  
 317-326-2362  
[www.sermonaudio.com/wordofgrace](http://www.sermonaudio.com/wordofgrace)  
[www.growatgrace.org](http://www.growatgrace.org)  
[pastor-elmer@hotmail.com](mailto:pastor-elmer@hotmail.com)