



## EXPLORE THE BIBLE<sup>®</sup>

The Gospel of John Sermon Series  
Supports Session 8: I Am the Bread  
Sermon Title: "This Is A Hard Saying" (John 6:60-69)

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### Connection to Session 8

Session 8 focusses on Jesus's feeding of the five thousand and His statement: "I am the bread of life" (6:35). In John 6:60-69, John describes how Jesus's hard teaching of "unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood" was received by people who followed Jesus. Many no longer followed Jesus after this saying.

### Introduction/Opening

Various times throughout the Gospels we find Jesus presenting hard teachings. Sometimes these teachings are hard because of what His teachings call us to. Other times they are hard because they are difficult to understand. The call to eat His flesh and drink His blood caused many to walk away. What many missed about this hard teaching of Jesus was that Jesus was using the physical items of eating and drinking to explain a spiritual reality.

### Outline

1. You Offended? (6:61)
  - a) Jesus explained to the people present that if they are offended by His statement of eating and drinking, then they will be offended by His "ascending" (v. 62). Jesus likely means His "lifting up" on the cross and then His ascension to heaven. He is telling them that if they are offended by His statement here, then a crucified Messiah will offend them as well. A crucified Messiah would have been seen as blasphemous for the Jewish leaders.
  - b) What hard sayings of Jesus do we struggling with and why?
2. Do You Want To Go Away As Well? (6:67)
  - a) After many of Jesus's listeners left, Jesus turned to the twelve and asked if they were going to leave as well. This is a key moment in the Gospel where the crowds now turn away from Jesus, rejecting Him as the Messiah. However, His disciples will strengthen their faith in Christ.
  - b) When life gets hard, where do we want to turn? Do we want to go away as well? The desires of the world are bidding us to forsake Christ; will we give in?

### 3. Where Else Will We Go? (6:68-69)

a) When Jesus asked His disciples if they wanted to go away, Peter responded, “Lord, to whom will we go? You have the words of eternal life.” Peter recognized that Jesus’s words bring life, and to leave Jesus would be to turn their back on life.

b) Peter also confesses: “We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God” (v. 69). What keeps us from believing with the same level of confidence as Peter?

### **Conclusion**

Where will we go? To whom will we go? Only Christ has the words of eternal life. Only in faith in Christ is there hope of eternal life. Only by trusting in Jesus are we can be saved. Do you want to go away as well?

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