

## Worksheet 70 – John 6:1-14 & 32-59

### **Feeding the Five Thousand (John 6:1-14; 32-59)**

**6** After these things Jesus went over the Sea of Galilee, which is the Sea of Tiberias. <sup>2</sup>Then a great multitude followed Him, because they saw His signs which He performed on those who were diseased. <sup>3</sup>And Jesus went up on the mountain, and there He sat with His disciples.

<sup>4</sup>Now the Passover, a feast of the Jews, was near. <sup>5</sup>Then Jesus lifted up His eyes, and seeing a great multitude coming toward Him, He said to Philip, "Where shall we buy bread, that these may eat?" <sup>6</sup>But this He said to test him, for He Himself knew what He would do.

<sup>7</sup>Philip answered Him, "Two hundred denarii worth of bread is not sufficient for them, that every one of them may have a little."

<sup>8</sup>One of His disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to Him, <sup>9</sup>"There is a lad here who has five barley loaves and two small fish, but what are they among so many?"

<sup>10</sup>Then Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, in number about five thousand. <sup>11</sup>And Jesus took the loaves, and when He had given thanks He distributed them to the disciples, and the disciples <sup>[a]</sup> to those sitting down; and likewise of the fish, as much as they wanted. <sup>12</sup>So when they were filled, He said to His disciples, "Gather up the fragments that remain, so that nothing is lost." <sup>13</sup>Therefore they gathered them up, and filled twelve baskets with the fragments of the five barley loaves which were left over by those who had eaten. <sup>14</sup>Then those men, when they had seen the sign that Jesus did, said, "This is truly the Prophet who is to come into the world."

### **(32-59)**

<sup>32</sup>Then Jesus said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, Moses did not give 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>Then they said to Him, "Lord, give us this bread always."

<sup>35</sup>And Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who 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 the one who comes to Me I will by no means 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>This is the will of the Father who sent Me, that of all He has given Me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up at the last day. <sup>40</sup>And this is the will of Him who sent Me, that everyone

who sees the Son and believes in Him may have everlasting life; and I will raise him up at the last day.”

<sup>41</sup>The Jews then complained about Him, because He said, “I am the bread which came down from heaven.” <sup>42</sup>And they said, “Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How is it then that He says, ‘I have come down from heaven’?”

<sup>43</sup>Jesus therefore answered and said to them, “Do not murmur among yourselves. <sup>44</sup>No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day. <sup>45</sup>It is written in the prophets, ‘And they shall all be taught by God.’<sup>[e]</sup> Therefore everyone who has heard and learned<sup>[f]</sup> from the Father comes to Me. <sup>46</sup>Not that anyone has seen the Father, except He who is from God; He has seen the Father. <sup>47</sup>Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me has everlasting life. <sup>48</sup>I am the bread of life. <sup>49</sup>Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and are dead. <sup>50</sup>This is the bread which comes down from heaven, that one may eat of it and not die. <sup>51</sup>I am the living bread which came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread that I shall give is My flesh, which I shall give for the life of the world.”

<sup>52</sup>The Jews therefore quarrelled among themselves, saying, “How can this Man give us *His* flesh to eat?”

<sup>53</sup>Then Jesus said to them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no life in you.<sup>54</sup>Whoever eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day. <sup>55</sup>For My flesh is food indeed, and My blood is drink indeed. <sup>56</sup>He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood abides in Me, and I in him. <sup>57</sup>As the living Father sent Me, and I live because of the Father, so he who feeds on Me will live because of Me.<sup>58</sup>This is the bread which came down from heaven—not as your fathers ate the manna, and are dead. He who eats this bread will live forever.”

<sup>59</sup>These things He said in the synagogue as He taught in Capernaum.

## **QUESTIONS (FROM VERSES 32-35 & 47-51)**

1. In the Old Testament in their desert wanderings, the People of Israel made complaint to Moses and in answer the Lord provided “manna” for them to eat (Exodus 16:1-36) – something flaky and resembling bread which fell on the camp. Christ in the Johannine verses insists that this “manna” – this bread from heaven- was given by His Father to the people.

What connection does He describe between this event and his own coming? Why is eating and drinking used as an (apparent) metaphor.

2. Can we actually feed on Christ? What is happening in Holy Communion within the Divine Liturgy / Eucharist?

## **QUESTIONS (FROM VERSES 53-58)**

1. Christ now moves in His teaching from eating bread to His flesh and from drinking (wine) to His blood. Clearly, this is a reference to the Eucharist. However, the Last Supper had not happened yet? Why did Jesus raise this matter then?
2. Jesus links the reception of Holy Communion to eternal life (now) and resurrection (at the last day). How does that work in receiving Holy Communion do you think?
3. The miracle and the meaning go together, yet the meaning (as often is the case in the gospels) is only shared with some. Why is that do you think?