



John 6:1-35 Small Group Questions

- Have someone read John 6:1-15. Many have heard this story more than once; did you notice anything this time that you didn't notice before?
- What is the response of the people in verses 14-15? Why would they call Jesus a prophet here?
- Ben said that a big reason that John includes this story is because of its Old Testament parallels to Moses, who was the greatest prophet in the Old Testament. What aspects of this miracle seem to echo things that Moses did?
 - Why would John want his audience to see in Jesus a better Moses, a better prophet?
 - Ben said that by contrasting Jesus with Moses, John is saying that Jesus is the promised final prophet, and therefore a "somebody." In verse 15, who or what is the "somebody" that the crowd thinks He is? Have they gotten it right?
 - The crowd thinks that He is someone who should be king. Why do they think this? Why do you think that Jesus withdraws from them as they try to make Him king?
 - What does the crowd's response to this miracle tell us about the human heart?
- Have someone read verses 16-21. Why do you think that John tells us this story right after telling us the story of the fish and loaves?

- In what ways does this story show that Jesus is a “somebody”?
- Ben mentioned that this story, too, echoes Moses and the Exodus. What parallels do you see between this story and the Exodus from Egypt? How does Jesus show that He is a greater leader and prophet than Moses by walking on water?
- Ben said that this story shows that you can know the prophet who provides. In these stories, Jesus provides by calming His disciples and feeding a crowd. In what ways does Jesus provide for His people today?
 - When we say that God is our provider, what do we mean? What do we *not* mean?
 - How do we come to trust in God as our provider, to believe that He actually does provide?
 - In what ways have you seen Jesus provide for you?
- Ben also said that these passages show that Jesus is the prophet who silences all fear.
 - What role does fear play in these stories?
 - What does fear feel like? What kinds of things are people afraid of in today’s world? What kinds of things are people afraid of in Washington, DC?
 - How does Jesus’ presence erase fear? Why does relationship with Him lead away from fear?
 - How have you overcome fear before through relationship with Jesus? Where have you struggled to overcome fear?
- Have someone read verses 22-35. Why does the crowd follow Jesus back to shore? What do they keep coming back to?
 - As Ben pointed out, the crowd followed Jesus because they wanted food. Why is it an error to follow Jesus in order to get something else?

- In what ways do Christians sometimes follow Jesus in order to get something from Him?
- How can we come to be satisfied by Jesus Himself, and not by the gifts that He gives us? In other words, how can we cultivate a deeper hunger and thirst for Jesus, rather than seeking satisfaction in temporary things?
- What is it like to be satisfied in Jesus? How does satisfaction in Christ contrast with satisfaction in other things?
- How have you practiced filling yourself with Jesus to find satisfaction in Him alone?