

'I Am the Bread of Life"

Introduction: (Rock Light Bread)

- What do these things have in common?
- How often in your life do you see water, rocks or stones, light, and bread?
- How would your life be blessed if these images reminded you of the ministry and mission of the Redeemer?

Helaman 5:12, John 8:12, John 6:35.

Jesus heals a man on the Sabbath and declares himself the Son of God. (John 5)

• Jesus healing a man at the pool of Bethesda (John 5:1–9). What instructions did Jesus give the man when he saw him in the temple later that day? (John 5:14.)

"Look after those who wait by the pool of Bethesda" (Reading 1)

- What can we do to help people who have physical or mental disabilities?
- Why are the effects of sin "a worse thing" than physical infirmities?
- Why did the Jewish leaders seek to kill Jesus? (John 5:16-18.)
- As Jesus responded to the angry Jews, what did he reveal about his relationship to the Father? (John 5:19–23, 30.)
- Jesus told the people that <u>he would soon do even "greater</u> works" than healing the sick (John 5:20). What did he say these greater works would be? (John 5:21–29.)
- What witnesses did the Savior say testified of him? (John 5:32–39, 45–47.)
- Why is it important to have these witnesses? (Jacob 4:6.)
- · How can we be witnesses of the Savior?
- Jesus challenged the Jewish leaders to "<u>search the</u> <u>scriptures</u>" (John 5:39). What is the difference between searching the scriptures and reading them?

"Search the scriptures" (John 5:39)

- Read John 5:20–30 silently while it is read aloud.
- What did you see when you searched the scriptures that you did not see when we read them quickly?
- What can we do to search the scriptures on our own?
- The Prophet Joseph Smith received the vision of the kingdoms

of glory after pondering John 5:29. Invite a class member to read Doctrine and Covenants 76:15–20.

- <u>What knowledge have we been blessed with</u> because Joseph Smith searched John 5:29?
- How have you made your **personal and family scripture** study more meaningful?
- How have you been blessed as you have searched the scriptures?
- According to John 5:39, <u>what would the Jewish leaders have</u> <u>known if they had searched and believed</u> the scriptures? (John 5:40, 46–47.)

• How have the scriptures strengthened your faith in Christ? Jesus miraculously feeds more than 5,000 people. (John 6:1–14 and Mark 6:30–44)

- <u>Why did Jesus and his disciples go up into a mountain?</u> (John 6:1–3; note the Joseph Smith Translation of Mark 6:31 in footnote 31*a*,)
- How did Jesus respond when the multitude came to him? (Mark 6:33–34; Matthew 14:14.)
- How can we follow his example of compassion?
- How did Jesus feed the multitude? (John 6:5–13; also Matthew 14:21.)
- How can we follow the example of the boy who gave his loaves and fishes to Jesus?
- How does the Lord bless us when we, like the boy, give whatever we have in His service?

(Reading 2)

Come Fallaw Me

- What are some examples you have seen of **people being** magnified by the Lord as they have served him?
- How is the miraculous feast from five loaves and two fishes symbolic of the spiritual feast the Savior offers us?

Jesus walks on the sea, invites Peter to come to him, and calms the winds. (John 6:15–21 and Matthew 14:22–33.)

How did the disciples react when they saw Jesus walking toward them on the water? (Matthew 14:26; John 6:19.)

★ How did Jesus respond to their fears? (Matthew 14:27; John 6:20.)

★ What did Peter request when he heard the Savior's voice? (Matthew 14:28–29.)

- Why did Peter's faith falter as he walked on the water? (Matthew 14:30.)
- ★ How do we sometimes make similar errors when difficulties arise?
- What did Peter do when he began to sink? (Matthew 14:30.)
- What did Jesus do? (Matthew 14:31-32.)
- st What does this reveal about our relationship with the Lord?
- How have you felt the Savior strengthen you and calm your fears?

Jesus declares that he is "the bread of life." (John 6:22–71.)

- The day after Jesus' miracle with the loaves and fishes, the people followed him to Capernaum. Why did they follow him? (John 6:26.)
- How did Jesus use the people's excitement about the <u>previous</u> <u>day's miracle to testify of his mission</u>? (John 6:27–35.)

(Reading 3)

- How is "bread of life" an appropriate description of the Savior and the blessings he offers us? (John 6:35, 47–51.)
- · What does it mean to "never hunger" and "never thirst"?
- How can we partake of the "bread of life"? (John 6:47, 51– 54; Matthew 26:26–28; Alma 5:33–35; D&C 20:77.)

(Reading 4)

- ★ When some people rejected Jesus' sermon, what did Jesus ask the Twelve Apostles? (John 6:67.)
- What was Peter's response? (John 6:68.)
- ☆ What did Peter and the other Apostles understand about Jesus that those who left did not understand? (John 6:69.)

Challenge:

Jesus Christ is "the bread of life". He has "the words of eternal life" (John 6:35, 68). Apply his promises from the Sermon on the Bread of Life: "He that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst. ... He that believeth on me hath everlasting life" (John 6:35, 47).

NEXT WEEK "Lesson 13: "I Will Give unto Thee the Keys of the Kingdom" Matthew 15:21–17:9

- Jesus said to Peter, "Upon this rock I will build my church" (Matthew 16:18). The Prophet Joseph Smith taught that the rock Jesus referred to is revelation (*Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith*, sel. Joseph Fielding Smith [1976], 274). In what way is revelation the foundation of the Lord's Church?
- Elder David B. Haight taught that Jesus' Transfiguration "was meant for our spiritual enlightenment as well as for those who were personal witnesses" (in Conference Report, Apr. 1977, 8; or *Ensign*, May 1977, 7). What can you learn from the Transfiguration to help you when you need spiritual strength? (See Matthew 17:1–5.)

Scripture Chain: Revelation

Proverbs 29:18	Amos 3:7	1 Corinthians 2:9–12
Galatians 1:11–12	2 Peter 1:20-21	Alma 5:46
Moroni 10:5		

