



Southwest Indian Ministries Camps

Elementary Devotional



OCTOBER 2023

Jesus is what we need to complete our life.

*"He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus."
- Philippians 1:6*

INTRO

There's one little problem with being out in the woods. One problem more important than any other challenge that comes with roughing it. It's not where to sleep. Sure, you'll probably have a tent, a sleeping bag, or something relatively comfortable, but you can get by without that if you must. It's not where to use the restroom even. There are plenty of hidden spots in the woods to go and relieve yourself. No, it's not as comfortable as a restroom, but it's still there.

The big question is, how will you eat? What kind of food will you bring? How will you prepare or cook that food? How will you keep your food safe at night from curious animals and bears? And if an animal does get a hold of your food supply, what will you do then?

Planning to eat and drink is critical on a camping trip, isn't it? But let's face it, the adults who take you camping know that, and they've probably planned well for all your meals. In fact, I'll bet the adults not only have breakfast, lunch, and dinner planned, but snacks as well. And what's the most popular snack on a camping trip?

You take one marshmallow and toast it, add it to some chocolate and graham crackers, and you get what we call s'mores.



There's nothing like a fresh s'more to fill your belly and warm you up at the end of a long day. But just like any other food we eat; a s'more can't keep you full for long. The next morning you'll need breakfast, then lunch, then dinner. Then, if you're lucky, another round of s'mores.

There is one food we can have that will satisfy us, not just for a few hours but for life. It's not food for our bellies that comes from the store or even nature, but the spiritual food Jesus speaks of in scripture.

READ JOHN 6:25-40

Jesus the Bread of Life

²⁵ When they found him on the other side of the lake, they asked him, “Rabbi, when did you get here?”

²⁶ Jesus answered, “Very truly I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw the signs I performed but because you ate the loaves and had your fill. ²⁷ Do not work for food that spoils, but for food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For on him God the Father has placed his seal of approval.”

²⁸ Then they asked him, “What must we do to do the works God requires?”

²⁹ Jesus answered, “The work of God is this: to believe in the one he has sent.”

³⁰ So they asked him, “What sign then will you give that we may see it and believe you? What will you do? ³¹ Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written: ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’”

³² Jesus said to them, “Very truly I tell you, it is not Moses who has given you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. ³³ For the bread of God is the bread that comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.”

³⁴ “Sir,” they said, “always give us this bread.”

³⁵ Then Jesus declared, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. ³⁶ But as I told you, you have seen me and still you do not believe. ³⁷ All those the Father gives me will come to me, and whoever comes to me I will never drive away. ³⁸ For I have come down from heaven not to do my will but to do the will of him who sent me. ³⁹ And this is the will of him who sent me, that I shall lose none of all those he has given me, but raise them up at the last day. ⁴⁰ For my Father’s will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise them up at the last day.”

MAIN POINT

Have you taken communion/the Lord’s Supper in church? If you’ll remember, during this special observance, we take a piece of bread and eat it, then we take a cup of juice and drink it. The juice represents the blood Jesus shed for us on the cross, and the bread is his body.



Jesus instituted communion/the Lord’s Supper the night before he was crucified, but long before that night, Jesus told people he was the bread of life. He is the bread that satisfies the spiritual hunger we all have.

Jesus is the bread of life, and if we eat the bread of life, we will never be hungry spiritually again.

We are all born with a hunger inside us. It’s not a physical hunger, but a spiritual hunger. There’s a hole in our hearts that can only be filled with one thing, and that’s Jesus.



Instead of filling that hole with Jesus, many people try to fill it with other things. They try false gods and false religions. They fill it with money, things, power, possessions. Some even try to fill it with themselves, making themselves their idol and god.

Jesus tells his listeners that there is no substitute for himself. He is the only thing that can satisfy our hunger. He is all we need.

Jesus is the Son of God. He came to restore us to a relationship with himself and God the Father, a relationship that was broken back in Genesis when Adam and Eve first sinned. Because Jesus died and rose again, he can forgive our sins. We can invite Jesus into our hearts, and his Holy Spirit will fill us up.

If you've been feeling an emptiness inside, Jesus wants to come in and fill that emptiness.

You will never have to feel lonely because Jesus will be with you. You will never have to feel afraid because Jesus will be with you. You will never feel that hunger in your heart again because Jesus will be with you.

Jesus is the bread of life. He is all we need. If you've never invited Jesus inside, open your hearts today and let Jesus satisfy your hunger.



"I AM" THE BREAD OF LIFE

Discover the hidden words.

L	N	D	J	N	R	Q	H	L	E	A	C	F	H	F
O	O	O	E	K	U	E	Y	P	S	M	J	B	C	O
F	H	R	U	U	G	Q	G	O	E	J	R	T	I	O
N	J	F	D	R	A	X	B	N	S	D	E	Q	G	D
B	V	O	J	N	I	V	L	U	U	S	D	D	O	G
R	V	G	D	N	F	S	S	F	T	H	M	Z	T	A
E	C	G	I	R	G	E	H	A	O	L	S	O	S	G
A	U	Z	S	U	J	E	M	M	H	U	N	G	R	Y
D	O	K	C	U	V	E	E	A	E	O	P	N	D	Y
P	L	B	I	J	N	S	G	P	G	N	A	S	H	J
N	Z	I	P	T	L	I	F	E	P	W	T	C	R	V
R	J	C	L	G	T	I	U	R	X	S	G	K	R	A
D	A	N	E	R	N	Q	I	J	P	N	W	Q	F	L
V	P	B	S	A	X	G	W	R	D	K	X	B	Q	W
T	A	M	P	J	G	S	G	I	R	Y	I	G	W	U

Word Bank

- | | | |
|-----------|-----------|-------------|
| DISCIPLES | JESUS | LORD |
| GOD | TESTAMENT | FOOD |
| HUNGRY | LIFE | NOURISHMENT |
| BREAD | HUNGER | JOHN |



Southwest Indian Ministries Camps

Elementary Devotional



Answer the questions and mail to: SIMCamps | 14202 N 73rd Ave | Peoria, AZ 85381.

Please print legibly.

Camper's Name:

Mailing Address:

Text #:

E-mail:

1. Who is the bread of life?
2. What makes the bread of life different from regular bread?
3. What has Jesus done for us that we could not do on our own?
4. How do we get the bread of life?
5. How would you explain to a friend why they need Jesus in their lives?