

**December 20th, The Bread Of Life**  
**Part 4 in the series 'Essential Services'**

What were some things from last Sunday's message that resonated with you?

Was there anything you wrestled with?

What are some appetites or longings that we may experience as being absolutely essential?

What is the most essential connection in our lives?

A: our connection to Jesus

READ Deuteronomy 8:1-3

8 "The whole commandment that I command you today you shall be careful to do, that you may live and multiply, and go in and possess the land that the Lord swore to give to your fathers. 2 And you shall remember the whole way that the Lord your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness, that he might humble you, testing you to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep his commandments or not. 3 And he humbled you and let you hunger and fed you with manna, which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that he might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.

What part of their story is Moses reminding the Israelites of in this passage?

A: when God provided the Israelites with manna in the wilderness

Why is it important that the Israelites remember this?

Possible answer: so that they remember that their connection with God is what's most important.

What does Moses mean by "...that he might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord."?

Possible answer: it is the truth of God that sustains true life and it is God that truly satisfies.

READ Matthew 4:1-4

4 Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. 2 And after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. 3 And the tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." 4 But he answered, "It is written, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

How does this passage emphasize the importance of scripture, especially in connection with the previous passage?

READ John 6:32-35

32 Jesus then said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but my Father gives you the true bread from heaven. 33 For the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." 34 They said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always."

35 Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst.

How does this passage reveal the truth that Jesus is the most essential part of our lives?

What does Jesus mean when he says, “whoever comes to me shall not hunger and whoever believes in me shall never thirst?”

What is the best way to hear truth, when we are bombarded with half truths, slight truths and sometimes flat out lies throughout the day?

A: read the Bible, read, listen to and meditate on God’s word.

What did Jim suggest reading each day if you are new to reading the Bible?

A: One chapter from from the New Testament and one chapter from the Psalms. A good resource is the Bible Project ([bibleproject.com](http://bibleproject.com))

Is there a specific verse or passage that you read or say when you are going through something difficult?

Has reading scripture changed the way you see the world, or how you go about your daily life?