


Third Sunday of Advent:



JOY

John 6:25-51

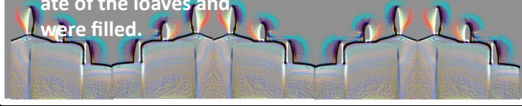
The Full Stomach Syndrome

John 6:26

- Jesus answered them and said, "Most assuredly, I say to you, you seek Me, not because you saw the signs, but because you ate of the loaves and were filled."

John 6:27

- Do not labor for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to everlasting life, which the Son of Man will give you, . . .



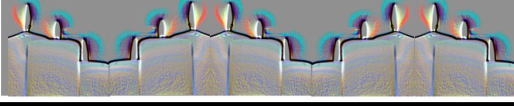
The Full Stomach Syndrome

John 6:29

- Jesus answered and said to them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He sent."

John 6:30

- Therefore they said to Him, "What sign will You perform then, that we may see it and believe You? What work will You do?"




The Full Stomach Syndrome

John 6:31

- Our fathers ate the manna in the desert; as it is written, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'"

John 6:32

- 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."



Principle #1



Want to find joy?
Stop looking in the
temporal realm

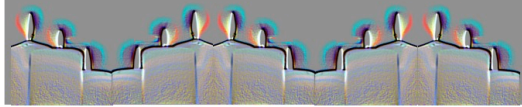
The Advice of Jesus

John 6:33

- For the bread of God is He who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world."

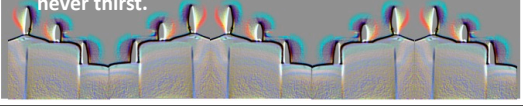
John 6:32

- . . . but My Father is *giving you* the true bread from heaven."

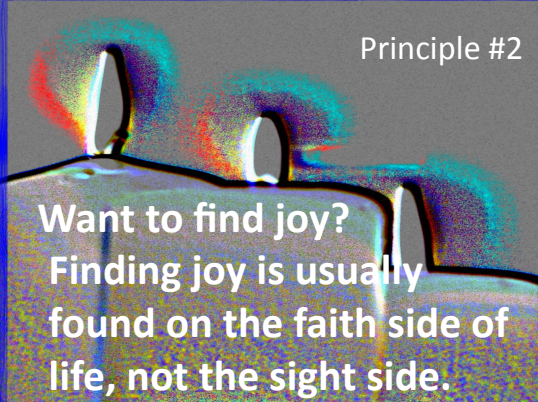


The Advice of Jesus

<p>John 6:35</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 35 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. 	<p>John 6:36</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> But I said to you that you have seen Me and yet do not believe.
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Principle #2



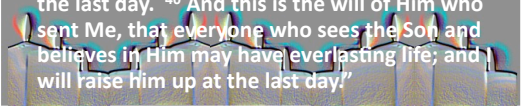
Want to find joy?
Finding joy is usually
found on the faith side of
life, not the sight side.

The story behind the story:

God has a gift and He's giving it to Jesus

John 6:37-40

³⁷ All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out. ³⁸ For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me. ³⁹ 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. ⁴⁰ 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.'

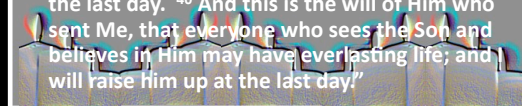


The story behind the story:

Jesus has a will and he's using it to do God's will

John 6:37-40

³⁷ All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out. ³⁸ For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me. ³⁹ 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. ⁴⁰ 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.'




The story behind the story:

People are coming to Jesus and it's God that's drawing them.

John 6:44-45

44 No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day. **45** It is written in the prophets, 'And they shall all be taught by God.' Therefore everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to Me.



Principle #3



Want to find joy?
Finding joy comes, not
only in coming to Jesus,
but indulging in Him to
your heart's content.

Indulging in Jesus

John 6:53–57

53 Then Jesus said to them, “. . . unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no life in you. . . . 56 He who eats My flesh and drinks My blood abides in Me, and I in him. 57 . . . he who feeds on Me will live because of Me.



Lessons

1. There is always a side to the story that is not being told. **Don't be overly discouraged.**
2. The untold and often invisible story is the faith side of the story. **Believe that God is at work.**
3. The faith side of the story is the side where inexpressible joy will finally be found. **Indulge in it and keep standing on the promises.**

