John 6:32-35

Reflection, August 5, 2018 *Food for the “Hangry” Soul*

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In light of what I just showed the children and all of us today I would like us to reflex on the following passage John 6:32-35. Jesus is teaching the crowd that had followed him the day after he miraculously feed 5000 of them 2 fishes and five loaves of bread.

*" 32 Then Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, it was not*

*Moses who gave 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 that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the*

*world. 35 Jesus said to them "I am the bread of life: he who*

*comes to me will not hunger and he who believes in me will never*

*thirst.”*

As I asked the children I will ask you? Can you remember a time when you were really hungry? You remember what that felt like… you feel light headed, hunger pangs, upset, tired, and irritable. I know when I am very hungry I become HANGRY. That’s H-A-N-G-R-Y. I am so hungry that I become angry at the least little thing. Hungry and Angry together equals HANGY. Nothing can sooth me but food.

I remember one time Chuck and I were traveling out west on our honeymoon. I Forgot where we were going but we didn’t realize that on a long day’s trip across Wyoming or some other Godforsaken state that there wouldn’t be a Cracker Barrel or a Wawa or a Sheets or a MacDonalds or even a gas station. We only ate a very early breakfast and it was now well past dinner time. Wow… we both were really hangry. Sure didn’t feel like a honeymoon in that car that day. Well we finally found some dinner and I am being complimentary calling it a dinner. We had the worst fried chicken meal.. but it was food. It wasn’t very satisfying but at least we weren’t Hangry anymore. The rest of the trip and even to this day we plan ahead much better.

When the Israelites under the leadership of Moses became hangry while wondering the desert on their way to the promised land, God feed them and sustained their lives with manna which was literally bread that fell out of the sky each morning… Bread from heaven. Well they decided that that wasn’t very satisfying so they became hangry again because they wanted some meat too. God supplied this because he loved them. They still weren’t satisfied because it was the same old thing quail, quail and more quail.

The crow, many who were Jews, listening to Jesus knew the manna was from heaven, from their loving God, for them alone to save their physical lives and now they want Jesus to do the same. Fill their bellies continually.

Aren’t we like that too?.... We ask for things to find when we get them we grow tired of them or they only satisfied us for a short time or they weren’t very satisfying at all so we looked for something else to fill our Hangry souls.

But what Jesus was teaching them and us today is that God sent His Son to save us and gives us eternal life…the Perfect Bread from Heaven. Jesus satisfies the deepest desires of our hangry souls. The crowd didn’t get it then. They kept asking Jesus for things that would meet their physical needs as you and I do today and He was telling them and us today that God sent Him to fill a deeper hunger…A spiritual hunger a soul hunger…Hunger for love, peace, joy, grace… oneness with each other and God.

In fact we pray for God to satisfy our Hangry souls each time we say the Lord’s prayer, “Give us this day our daily Bread”. Think about this next time you say The Lord’s prayer. Give us this day and every day the life of Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life.

And when we partake in communion taking of the bread and the wine this is the ultimate reminder of taking in the Bread of Life, Jesus Christ into our physical bodies and into who we are…our essence..our spiritual being..our souls.

In this world from the beginning of time people have to work to put bread on the table or we will die of starvation. To be feed by the Bread of Life, the Bread that came down from heaven…

“the work of God is this that you believe in Him, [Jesus], whom He, [God the Father] sent”. Jn 6:29

God is faithful and will help to sustain us not only physically but more importantly God will sustain and feed our soul with the life of Jesus Christ himself. Our response…(work for this bread of life)… is that we believe. Our action to the world is that we then become broken bread in service to the world so others can feed off of the life of Jesus in us until they believe.

Our physical bodies will die even though we are physically feed. However, the bread from heaven perfectly satisfies our Hangry Souls for eternity. With this bread of life, Jesus Christ,…who we are… our essence… our spiritual being…our soul will never die.

Amen