

# Daily Reflections

The Divine Intervention

August 2, 2015

## *Scripture*

### **John 6:24-35**

When the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they themselves got into boats and came to Capernaum looking for Jesus.

And when they found him across the sea they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you get here?"

Jesus answered them and said,

"Amen, amen, I say to you, you are looking for me not because you saw signs but because you ate the loaves and were filled.

Do not work for food that perishes but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you.

For on him the Father, God, has set his seal."

So they said to him,

"What can we do to accomplish the works of God?"

Jesus answered and said to them,

"This is the work of God, that you believe in the one he sent."

So they said to him,

"What sign can you do, that we may see and believe in you?"

What can you do?

Our ancestors ate manna in the desert, as it is written:  
He gave them bread from heaven to eat.”  
So Jesus said to them,  
“Amen, amen, I say to you,  
it was not Moses who gave the bread from heaven;  
my Father gives you the true bread from heaven.  
For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven  
and gives life to the world.”  
So they said to him,  
“Sir, give us this bread always.”  
Jesus said to them,  
“I am the bread of life;  
whoever comes to me will never hunger,  
and whoever believes in me will never thirst.”

## *Our Scripture Reflection*

After having fed 5,000 people, Jesus fled the scene because He knew they wanted to crown Him their King. Why? To keep the food coming. The crowd chased after Jesus and when they find Him they wanted Him to keep the bread coming and if He won't do it, then show them how to make it happen. Jesus explains to them that physical food must not be their focus because no matter how much they consume their bellies will be empty again. Jesus has something truly and eternally satisfying...His very Presence if only they will humble themselves and believe in Him.

## *Food for your Journey*

In the quest for happiness, fun and fulfillment, many go after the wrong things.....  
Most Americans eat well. To have three square meals a day is not uncommon. Indeed, many eat five or six times a day, if coffee breaks, evening snacks and other times of eating are counted, in addition to breakfast, lunch, and supper. Drive through a town of any consequence and count the number of fast food places and restaurants that are found. At some corners of major roads or along a block or two of a busy thoroughfare you may find five to ten feeding establishments. It is not uncommon to find in close proximity McDonald's, Burger King, Burger Chef, Arby's, Subway, Pizza Hut, Domino's, Dairy Queen, Long John Silver's, Wendy's, and Taco Bell as well as lesser known or local look-a-like fast food

establishments. Go into a major supermarket and count the variety of products that are similar. The only discernible difference often is in the trade name. Whole aisles will be filled with a vast array of cereals. Another aisle will be filled with competing brands of soft drinks: Coca-Cola, Pepsi, Royal Crown, 7 Up, and lesser known or store brands. Try to find in the same area a religious bookstore. Compare the size of the religious book and supply store with the supermarket. It does not appear that people are as eager to be fed spiritually as they are to be fed physically! In John 6, Jesus takes the preoccupation of the crowds with food and drink as an occasion to move from physical eating and drinking to the more important needs of the spirit. Nourishment is needed for spiritual life and growth.

Now here's the story of a little girl who embraced the right thing and it made all the difference....

There is a story about a five-year-old girl named Mary who had suffered a stroke that left half of her body paralyzed. Even more tragically, she had been hospitalized for treatment of a brain tumor, and had recently lost her father and mother. She was being examined in an MRI machine. The imaging sequence at that time required the patient to remain perfectly still for about five minutes--a demanding task for a five-year-old. About two minutes into the first sequence, the doctor and the technician noticed on the video monitor that Mary's mouth was moving. They even heard a muted voice over the intercom. They halted the exam and gently reminded Mary not to talk. She smiled and promised not to talk. They repeated the sequence with the same result. Her lips were still moving. The technologist, a bit gruffly, said, "Mary, you were talking again, and that causes blurry pictures." Mary's smile remained as she replied, "I wasn't talking. I was singing. You said no talking." "What were you singing?" someone asked. "Jesus Loves Me," came the barely audible reply. "I always sing 'Jesus Loves Me' when I'm happy." Everyone in the room was speechless. "Happy? How could this little girl be happy?" The technologist and the doctor had to leave the room to regain their composure as tears began to fall. [James C Brown, MD: E-zine: Chicken Soup for the Soul. Today's Gospel tells us how Jesus promised to remain with us through the Heavenly Bread of the Holy Eucharist to demonstrate his love for us.

## *Prayer from the Heart*

Dear Jesus, as I ponder the beauty of life and all that is in it, help me to remember that all the good I see is passing. What lasts forever, Lord, is Your Presence. Help me to adore and love You above all things. Amen.