John's "Spiritual" Gospel
Lesson Five

The TRUE Bread of Heaven

[John 6:1-14].....Jesus Feeds Five Thousand

Vs. 1 "Sea of Tiberias" – Tiberias was named by King Herod Antipas in 20CE in honor of the reigning emperor. It was built over a Jewish cemetery, so no observant Jews would ever live there for it would make them ritually unclean.

There is no record reporting Jesus was ever there nor of Jesus ever mentioning the city in his teachings.

Vss.6-9 John shows Jesus' omniscience here.

This is the only time the boy is present in the story. In the synoptics they either refer to him or just his lunch.

Vss.10-12 Unlike the synoptics, Jesus doesn't break the bread, and he distributes. Why?

Remember the twelve baskets of leftovers shows the extravagance of this miracle – just like the wine in chapter two.

"Gather the pieces that are left over. Let nothing be wasted."

Vss.14-15 "If he can feed this multitude, surely he can handle world hunger and any other societal ills" – makes sense that they would think this way.

It also makes sense for them to want to forcibly make Jesus a king.

[John 6:15-21].....Jesus Walks on the Water

Vss.16-24 This is a familiar story. We see something new about Jesus – He is the master over nature and physics.

John intentionally shares it was dark when Jesus was seen walking – because the Light always overcomes the dark

John intentionally shares about the strong wind and rough waters – because God never fears what God has created.

Where's Peter?

Vs.21 "immediately" – the presence in boats (or lives) can bring about an immediate change.

[John 6:25-70].....Jesus is the Bread of Life

Vss.25-32 The feeding of the five thousand was not coincidental, but intentional. Jesus's uses this miracle to describe himself to those present.

He even shows how he and the manna from Moses' day both came from the same place and same hand.

Vss.33-59 Another "I Am" statement where Jesus not only declares he is the Bread of Heaven, but again equates himself to God.

The grumbling we see is another example of the darkness not understanding and receiving the Light.

vss.53-59 A hard way to express Jesus' truth. But what he means is that we must

receive him completely; as if we were digesting him.
Jesus must be as much a part of us as the food we eat and drink.

Vss.60-65 Many of the disciples are not confused by Jesus saying, but offended.
It appears that Jesus does not want to be all alone and asks the remaining disciples if they will leave too.
Peter confesses who Jesus is – "We believe and know that you are the Holy One of God."

vss.70-71 Yes, the devil Jesus chose was Judas. Overall, John is still showing Jesus's omniscience. He knew who and what Judas was and chose him for the intent of betraying Jesus.

[John 7]…….. Overall Summary

Jesus faces scrutiny from his brothers and those listening to him at the Feast of Tabernacles in Jerusalem. As Jesus defends his calling and purpose, many deride him, while some follow him saying "Surely this man is the Prophet." "He is the Christ." But some asked, "How can the Christ come from Galilee? Does not the scripture say that the Christ will come from David's family and from Bethlehem…? Jesus' humblest beginnings were not as well known as his teachings and miracles. The people were divided, with some wanting to follow and some wanting to kill him. Nicodemus would stand within the Pharisees with an attempt to keep Jesus a live. But most of the Jewish leaders were against Jesus too.