



Lift Up Your Eyes
12th in the “Life in his Name” Series
John 6:1-15, p. 891
December 9, 2018
Pastor Mickey Klink

Introduction

In this passage God teaches us about the hospitality of Jesus and exhorts us to emulate his hospitality to others.

The Text: John 6:1-15

- 1) Scripture trains us to read theologically – to see a very big story about a very good God (vv. 1-5a).
- 2) The work of God today rebukes faithless selfishness and exhorts humble action (vv. 5b-9).
- 3) Jesus has come as the gracious Host of creation, offering hospitality to us and through us (vv. 10-15).

Response

“Lift up your eyes” ... to the hospitality of Jesus and his ministry of hospitality to those around you.

Sunday Text Questions for John 6:1-15

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- 1) Starter Question: How can Christians extend hospitality to strangers and those in need around us?
- 2) Read the text aloud and discuss together any significant observations or issues needing clarification.
- 3) How might it be wrong or incomplete for the crowd in v. 2 to be interested in Jesus because of his miraculous powers?
- 4) How does the use of the phrase, “lift up your eyes,” in 4:35 help explain its meaning in this text in v. 5 as a description of Jesus?
- 5) The narrator’s explanatory comment in v. 6 helps us understand Jesus’ question to Philip in v. 5. What was Jesus “test” for Philip, and what was the response for which Jesus was looking?
- 6) How do Philip and Andrew’s responses to Jesus in vv. 7-9 suggest they had a mocking or sarcastic tone? How might you have responded to Jesus’ request?
- 7) What do the narrative’s descriptions of Jesus feeding thousands of people to the full in vv. 10-11 want the reader to see and understand?
- 8) What are the closing details of the story in vv. 12-15 intending to communicate to the reader?
- 9) What does this text want us to see about the hospitality of Jesus? How does this text exhort the Christian to share in the work of hospitality God is doing in the world?
- 10) What *truths to believe* or *actions to obey* does this passage of Scripture teach us?

Further study this week: Isaiah 68 on religious hospitality (Mon); 1 Timothy 5 on church hospitality (Tues); Titus 1, especially v. 8, on hospitable church leaders (Wed); 1 Peter 4:1-11, especially v. 9, on sharing God’s hospitable grace (Thurs); Leviticus 19:9-18, 33-34 on hospitality to neighbor and foreigner (Fri).