

# The *Good News* that John Wrote

*...that you may believe that  
Jesus is the Christ, the Son of  
God, and that believing you  
may have life in his name.*

John 20.31

*Life in the Spirit*

# Objectives of the Class

- To behold in our hearts the glory of Christ
- To participate more deeply in life in the Spirit
- To become more conformed to His image
- To pray for and encourage one another

# Prayer Before Reading Scripture

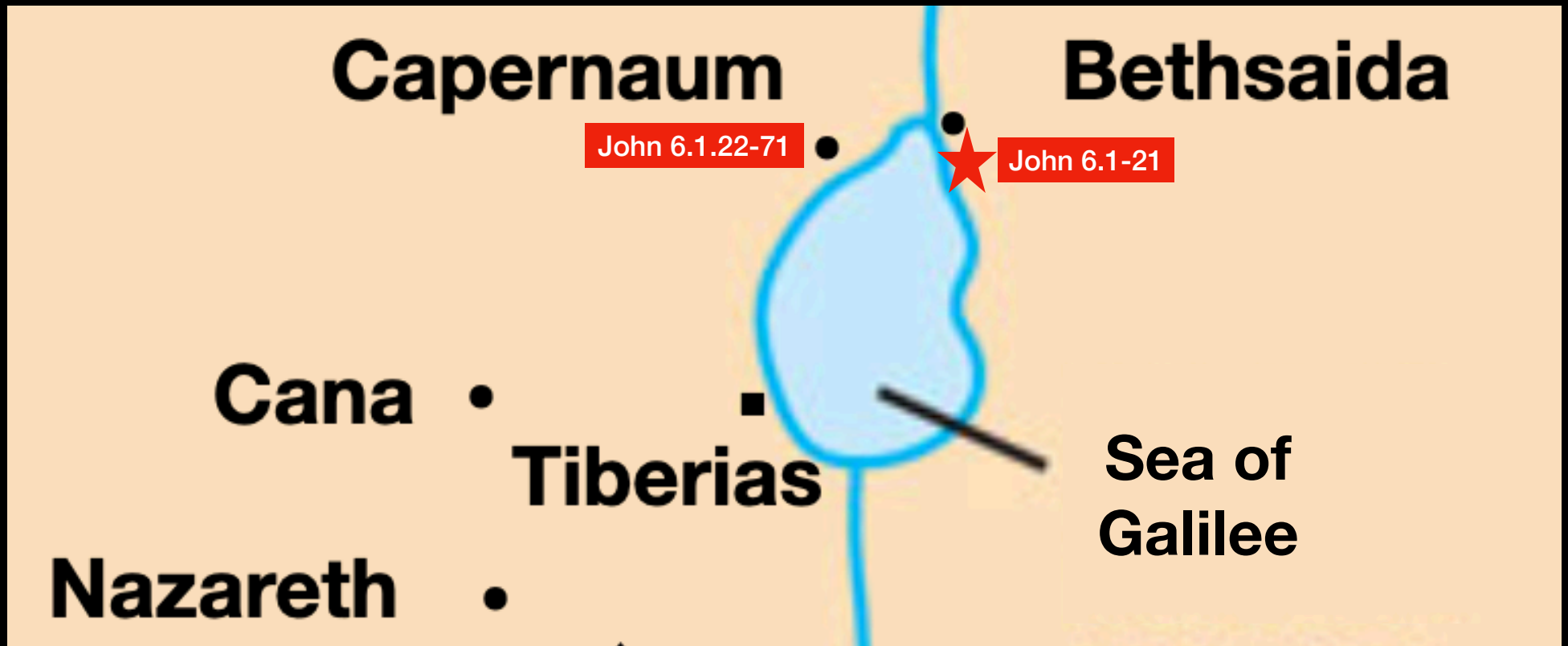
Shine within our hearts, loving Master, the pure light of Your divine knowledge and open the eyes of our minds that we may comprehend the message of Your Gospel. Instill in us also reverence for Your blessed commandments, so that having conquered all sinful desires, we may pursue a spiritual life, thinking and doing all those things that are pleasing to You. For You, Christ our God, are the light of our souls and bodies, and to You we give glory together with Your Father who is without beginning and Your all holy, good, and life giving Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

**Watch**  
**John 6.22-40**

# Study

## John 6.22-40

# Places mentioned in John 6



## John 6.22-25

Next day the crowd which had stayed on the other side of the lake realized that there had been only one boat there. They knew that Jesus had not gone in it with his disciples, but that they had left without him. Other boats, which were from Tiberias, came to shore near the place where the crowd had eaten the bread after the Lord had given thanks. When the crowd saw that Jesus was not there, nor his disciples, they got into those boats and went to Capernaum, looking for him. When the people found Jesus on the other side of the lake, they said to him, "Teacher, when did you get here?"

## **John 6.26**

**Jesus answered, “I am telling you the truth: you are looking for me because you ate the bread and had all you wanted, not because you understood my miracles.**



## **Fr. Alexander Schmemmann + For the Life of the World**

- Man is a hungry being. But he is hungry for God. Behind all the hunger of our life is God. All desire is finally a desire for Him. To be sure, man is not the only hungry being. All that exists lives by “eating.” The whole creation depends on food. But the unique position of man in the universe is that he alone is to bless God for the food and the life he receives from Him. He alone is to respond to God’s blessing with his blessing.

## **Mathew 6.23-25**

**“You cannot be a slave of two masters; you will hate one and love the other; you will be loyal to one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money. “This is why I tell you: do not be worried about the food and drink you need in order to stay alive, or about clothes for your body. After all, isn’t life worth more than food? And isn’t the body worth more than clothes?**

## **Mathew 6.31-32**

**“So do not start worrying: ‘Where will my food come from? or my drink? or my clothes?’ (These are the things the pagans are always concerned about.)  
Your Father in heaven knows that you need all these things.**

## **Mathew 6.33-34**

**Instead, be concerned above everything else with the Kingdom of God and with what he requires of you, and he will provide you with all these other things. So do not worry about tomorrow; it will have enough worries of its own. There is no need to add to the troubles each day brings.**

## **John 6.27**

**Do not work for food that spoils; instead, work for the food that lasts for eternal life. This is the food which the Son of Man will give you, because God, the Father, has put his mark of approval on him.”**

## John 6.28-29

Then they said to him, “What must we do, to be doing the works of God?” Jesus answered them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.” (RSV)

## **John 6.30-31**

**They replied, “What miracle will you perform so that we may see it and believe you? What will you do? Our ancestors ate manna in the desert, just as the scripture says, ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’”**

## **John 6.32-33**

**“I am telling you the truth,” Jesus said. “What Moses gave you was not the bread from heaven; it is my Father who gives you the real bread from heaven. For the bread that God gives is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.”**



## **John 6.34**

**“Sir,” they asked him, “give us this bread  
always.”**

## **John 6.35**

**“I am the bread of life,” Jesus told them. “Those who come to me will never be hungry; those who believe in me will never be thirsty.”**

# **What does “Bread of Life” Mean?**

- **Bread = food**
- **Bread of life = the food we must eat in order to stay alive**
- **Life**
  - **Physical bread to sustain our mortal life**
  - **Christ Himself for our eternal life**

## **Fr. Alexander Schmemmann + For the Life of the World**

- “In the Bible the food that man eats, the world of which he must partake in order to live, is given to him by God, and it is given as communion with God.”
- “All that exists is God’s gift to man, and it all exists to make God known to man, to make man’s life communion with God. It is divine love made food, made life for man.”
- Life is meant to be “...eucharistic—an offering of the world in thanksgiving to God.”

## **John 6.36**

**Now, I told you that you have seen me but will not believe.**

## **John 6.37-38**

**Everyone whom my Father gives me will come to me. I will never turn away anyone who comes to me, because I have come down from heaven to do not my own will but the will of him who sent me.**

## **John 6.39-40**

**And it is the will of him who sent me that I should not lose any of all those he has given me, but that I should raise them all to life on the last day. For what my Father wants is that all who see the Son and believe in him should have eternal life. And I will raise them to life on the last day.”**

# **An Important Question**

- **They came for the wrong motives, and Christ challenged them.**
- **We need to ask ourselves, why do we come to the services?**



**Questions?**  
**Comments?**

# Prayer for Coronavirus

O God Almighty, Lord of heaven and earth, and of all creation visible and invisible, in Your ineffable goodness, look down upon us, Your people gathered in Your Holy Name. Be our helper and defender in this day of affliction. You know our weakness. You hear our cry in repentance and contrition of heart. O Lord who loves mankind, deliver us from the impending threat of the Coronavirus. Send Your angel to watch over us and protect us. Grant health and recovery to those suffering from this virus. Guide the hands of physicians and nurses, and preserve those who are healthy that we may continue to serve our suffering brothers and sisters in peace, that together we may glorify thy most honorable and majestic name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

# Prayer for God's Help

Almighty God, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, come to our help and deliver us from the difficulties that beset us. We believe Lord, that all trials of life are under Your care and that all things work for the good of those who love You. Do whatever is profitable for our souls. Take away from us fear, anxiety and distress. Help us to face and endure our difficulties with faith, courage and wisdom. Grant that these trials may bring us closer to You for You are our rock and refuge, our comfort and hope, our delight and joy. We trust in Your love and compassion. Forgive us every transgression, voluntary and involuntary. Blessed is Your name, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.