



GOSPEL | COMMUNITY | MISSION

September 9, 2018

John 6:60-71

“A New Church with an Old Message”

QUESTIONS

(potential discussion/conversation questions to use in your GGs this week)

1. Have a few people from your group share their IDC story – how did they or their family end up at Imago Dei? This week’s icebreaker time could also be used to get some feedback about the ministry fair booths. How can we, as a growth group, encourage our individuals to plug into the various ministry opportunities that IDC endorses?
2. What was impactful to you about this sermon and text? What are some ways that you were challenged to respond?
3. Tony mentioned a few times that IDC is a new church with an old message. Some churches today attempt to make this old message less exclusive and more appealing to the masses. What are some ways we, as a church family, can fight against watering down the truth of the gospel?
4. In verse 60, The disciples acknowledge that Jesus has said some hard things. Tony listed a few possibilities of why they did not love the words that Jesus was saying:
 - Some were more interested in food than his message.
 - Some wanted a political Messiah.
 - Some didn’t want to give up power.
 - Some were offended by Jesus’ claims of being greater than Moses.
 - Some were offended by his reference of eating his flesh and drinking his blood.

These examples are all from John 6. What are some other difficult things that Jesus said in the gospels? How should we respond when we hear hard sayings like this? What opportunities do these sayings present to us?

5. Mark 8:34–38 — “34 And calling the crowd to him with his disciples, he said to them, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. 35 For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel’s will save it. 36 For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul? 37 For what can a man give in return for his soul? 38 For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of Man also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

In v. 38, Jesus warns against two possibilities: being ashamed of him or his word. What might it look like to be ashamed of each of these in our lives? What might it look like to not be ashamed?

6. Think about the unbreakable sequence of the cross, resurrection, and ascension. To be a disciple of Jesus you must accept that Jesus died, rose, and ascended. How are they all interdependent on each other to complete God's plan of salvation? What problems do people run into if they do not believe one aspect of the triangle? How should each impact our daily lives?

7. Read Peter's great confession in verses 68-69. He says that he has come to believe (heart knowledge) and know (head knowledge) that Jesus is the Holy One of God. Talk in your group about the difference in believing something and knowing something. Sometimes we know easier than we believe. How can we transfer what we know to be true about God into living out our faith in our everyday lives?

(*Special thanks to **Sara Beth Fentress** for her help in compiling these questions.)