

# Firestarter: John

## Scripture: John 6:1-24

Before you read

1. Gather a pen, paper, and highlighters (for marking in your Bible).
2. Pray, asking God for wisdom and understanding of the word you are about to read.
3. Read the section more than one time.
  - First, read to understand.
  - Second, read to notice.
  - Third, read for questions. Record your questions as you read and see if you can answer them. Then Choose 3 questions from the observation section and find their answers.
  - Fourth, mark all the words that refer to **life** and **bread/food**.

### READ: John 6:1-24

### OBSERVATION:

How did Jesus test Philip (vv. 5-6)?

How would you have responded in that situation? How would you define a miracle? (See 6:2 note.)

What can you learn about miracles and how God works from this passage?

In what ways have you witnessed God doing a lot with a little?

Why would Jesus resist the people's intentions to set Him up as their king (v. 15)?

How could that action have interfered with God's plan and Jesus' real purpose?

### APPLICATION:

Do you believe in miracles? If you believe the Bible, it would be tough not to expect unusual activity to surround the lives of Jesus' followers. Yet, when you read the Bible, do you ever wonder why we don't experience the same type of miracles today?

Are people in less need?

Does God not intend to work in the same ways He did when His church first started?

Perhaps we have too many things figured out. If God doesn't act as we expect, we simply follow another one of our options. But with what we know from God's Word, He may expect us to get

more involved in possible miracles. He's not looking for a lot. He doesn't expect us to have things figured out. A simple act of faith and dependence on Him may be all He's waiting for. When we realize just how much God can do with so little, we can willingly place in God's hands whatever we have and watch Him do amazing things with it.

What purposes do miracles serve in God's kingdom?

What place should miracles have in the lives of Jesus' followers today?

Do you think God intends to do more miracles in and through the church today?

How have you seen God do a lot with a little?

In what areas of your life could God do a lot with a little in your life?

**ACTION Step:** Think of a situation where you need a miracle or a definite answer from God. Is He telling you to do something specific or help the solution somehow? Whether or not it seems like your contribution or response will make a difference, follow God's direction anyway. Do or give what you can, and trust God to do the rest.

### **PRAY:**

Ask Jesus to give you faith to trust God for great things, regardless of what you have, feel, or see.