

WORDS OF ETERNAL LIFE

John 6:60-71

Key Verse: 68

I. Words of Spirit and Life (60-65)

John 6:60-65 (NIV2011)

⁶⁰On hearing it, many of his disciples said, "This is a hard teaching. Who can accept it?"

⁶¹Aware that his disciples were grumbling about this, Jesus said to them, "Does this offend you?"

⁶²Then what if you see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before!

⁶³The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing. The words I have spoken to you—they are full of the Spirit and life.

⁶⁴Yet there are some of you who do not believe." For Jesus had known from the beginning which of them did not believe and who would betray him.

⁶⁵He went on to say, "This is why I told you that no one can come to me unless the Father has enabled them."

1. **Jesus' message was difficult to accept for many disciples**
 - a. The message was for the synagogue crowd in Capernaum
 - b. They were like Bible students in our church – immature
2. **His immature disciples were offended**
 - a. By eating Jesus' flesh and drinking His blood (61)
 - b. The problem was not in their understanding, but in their hearts.
 - c. They wanted physical bread, not Jesus' fresh and blood.
3. **There is the ascension and exaltation of Christ** (62)
 - a. They were offended by the ascension and exaltation of Christ.
 - b. If they would believe it, they should surrender the worldly desires.
 - c. The counterfeit disciples were unwilling to submit themselves under the dominion of Christ.
4. **The spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing** (63)
 - a. Only the Spirit quicken a man and make him alive, giving him abundant and eternal life.
 - b. The word that Jesus spoke were Spirit and life.
5. **There were some who didn't believe** (64)
 - a. They didn't believe Jesus' word.
 - b. Therefore, they didn't have the Spirit of God nor life.
6. **God saves man, man does not save himself** (65)
 - a. No man can come to Him unless God draws and stirs him to come
 - b. No man really belongs to God who has not come to Him
 - c. All men are lost unless they come to Jesus

II. To Whom Shall We Go (66-71)

John 6:66-71 (NIV2011)

⁶⁶From this time many of his disciples turned back and no longer followed him.

⁶⁷"You do not want to leave too, do you?" Jesus asked the Twelve.

7. **The conclusion:** Three kinds of responses of disciples (66-71)
 - a. **The disciples who turned back** (66-67)
 - 1) Why? Following Christ cost too much.
 - 2) It involves the cross, which meant complete denial of oneself

⁶⁸Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.

⁶⁹We have come to believe and to know that you are the Holy One of God."

⁷⁰Then Jesus replied, "Have I not chosen you, the Twelve? Yet one of you is a devil!"

⁷¹(He meant Judas, the son of Simon Iscariot, who, though one of the Twelve, was later to betray him.)

b. **The disciple who believed Jesus was the Christ (68-69)**

- 1) Peter spoke for all 12 disciples.
- 2) By calling Jesus, "Lord", they recognized Jesus to be the sovereign Lord of the universe, the One to whom all men owe their allegiance.

c. **The disciple who betrayed Christ (70-71)**

- 1) Judas was a chosen man, chosen not only to be saved, but also to be a shepherd of God's flock.
- 2) But Judas intentionally betrayed and became a devil.
- 3) Judas was a professed follower, but a hypocrite, an enemy of Christ.

Prayer: Father, thank you for revealing Jesus to us. Thank you for giving us words of eternal life.

One Word: Jesus has the words of eternal life

Testimony Topics:

- a. **What does "the Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing" mean?**
- b. **What does "God saves man, man doesn't save himself" mean?**
- c. **Explain three kinds of responses of Jesus' disciples?**