

### **Message Study Guide**

(Scriptures & quotes from this week's message are available on [thorncreek.church/live](http://thorncreek.church/live))

#### **Warming up**

1. At what point does a church...become something MORE than just another church?
  
2. What makes our church unique? Why do you keep coming back?

#### **Digging Deeper & Application**

Take your time reading the scripture given. If possible look up the verses in different versions and pause at each verse and discuss it.

2. Read John 6:1-14
  - a. This is an amazing miracle. How do you think the people viewed Christ after this miracle?
  
  - b. What did they want to do with Jesus?
  
  - c. Which situations in your life do you struggle with trusting God?
  
3. Read John 6:15-21
  - a. How is this scripture related to the Feeding of the 5,000?
  
  - b. What was the crowd's intention?
  
  - c. What was Jesus' reaction to the crowd's intention?
  
  - d. Why was Jesus not with the disciples?
  
  - e. How has God provided for you?
  
4. Read 6:22-51
  - a. How does this story compare to the Feeding of the 5,000?
  
  - b. What did Jesus want the crowd to understand?

- c. What was the core truth in His teaching?
  - d. How do you think people took this teaching?
  - e. What fears has Jesus calmed in your life?
5. Read John 6:52-66
- a. What were people struggling with?
  - b. What contrast does Jesus make between manna and the bread of life?
  - c. What things do we seek from Jesus?
6. (Willow Creek Community Church did a study in the summer of 2007. They studied 280,000 in-depth responses from congregants in 1,200 churches across a wide variety of denominations. The reason why people stayed in a church... In fact, the research found very little correlation between church activity and spiritual growth. The ONE THING that moves us along the continuum towards maturity is our relationship with Christ.) Based on Willow Creek's Study, and the correlation between your personal relationship with Jesus Christ and your satisfaction of the local church, what would you say about yourself?

### **Application**

**Below is ThornCreek Church's culture and core values. Discuss how you see them displayed or how you have experienced each one of them.**

- At ThornCreek Church, we have a culture of loving on each other. We value unconditional love!
- At ThornCreek Church, we want people to leave a part of themselves here so they have to come back. We value authentic relationships.
- Our desire at ThornCreek Church, is for people to worship God and to have an encounter with God. We value personal transformation!

Stay up to date on everything happening with our Prevail Campaign at [thorncreek.church/prevail](http://thorncreek.church/prevail)