

## John 2:23

---

Once when Jesus had finished teaching a large crowd in a remote area he wished to give them something to eat. The only food his students had was five loaves and two fish from a boy's lunch. Jesus multiplied that small meal and fed that crowd of 5000 men and their families. The people ate as much as they wanted, and there was enough food left over to fill up twelve baskets.

(1)

Think about [John 6:14-15](#).

*When the people saw the sign that he (Jesus) had done, they said, "This is indeed the Prophet who is to come into the world!" Perceiving then that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, Jesus withdrew again to the mountain by himself.*

- What did these people want to do to Jesus?
  - Did Jesus want this?
- 

(2)

Think about [John 6:26-27,29](#).

*Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you are seeking me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give to you. ... This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent."*

Note, "The Son of Man" is a name Jesus called himself.

- Why did these people seek Jesus to make him their king?
  - What did Jesus say to correct their wrong thinking?
  - How can we work for and eat the food which endures to life eternal.
- 

(3)

Think about [John 2:23-25](#).

*Now when he (Jesus) was in Jerusalem at the Passover Feast, many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he was doing. But Jesus on his part did not entrust himself to them, because he knew all people and needed no one to bear witness about man, for he himself knew what was in man.*

- Why did Jesus not give himself over to the people who saw his miracles and said they believed?
  - What do you think is in man, that caused Jesus to not trust them?
-

---

(4)

Think about [Romans 7:14-20](#).

*(The apostle Paul said) ... I am of the flesh, sold under sin. For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do what I do not want, ... it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. ... For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me.*

- What evil energy lived within Paul's flesh?
- What did this evil power cause Paul to do?

---

(5)

Think about [Romans 7:21-24](#).

*So I (the apostle Paul) find it to be a law, that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, but I see in my members (parts of the body) another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members.*

- What did Paul call the force within him that made him its prisoner?

---

(6)

Think about [Romans 8:2](#).

*For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death.*

- What has set true believers in Jesus free from being held captive by the law of sin within us?

