

December 2, 2022

The Bread of Life, our Bridge of Faith

[John 6: 35-40](#)

Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst. (John 6:35)

It had been a typical week this past April (2022), and Sharon had just picked me up at the Pittsburgh Airport after a week of working in several cities around the US. We had gotten in the car and headed to Moundsville with dinner plans along the way. She put her hand on mine and said pull over here. There's something I want to talk to you about.

Pieces of the conversation are still a bit of a blur; however, I do remember Stage 4 Pancreatic Cancer has metastasized to the Liver. Eleven (11) months to live. Of course, various emotions and thoughts go through your head when your wife shares this with you.

However, I want to share the faith of the strongest and most intelligent women I know. In January, before this, I had been sharing with Sharon that I wanted to desire God in my life every day in the good times as we do in the tough times. I had started studying the word looking for how to create this desire in my heart, and prayer kept coming up as the solution to desiring God.

After Chemo in June, Sharon looked over at me and said, "You know I am going to be healed." "Yes, I believe that," was my reply.

She said to me, "I am not sure you understand." Sharon reminded me that Christ promised us he would not abandon us. If not here, I will be healed in Heaven when I get there. He is my all, my everything, and I will be ok because he has promised that he will not forsake me. So we are not going to worry about the how or when. We will wait on the Lord."

The Lord's Supper is described in much greater detail in the other Gospels. John shares that when we accept Christ (the bread), it is sufficient forever as our faith endures. The bread has historically sustained man in life and built bridges between cultures via trade and commerce. With this bread that John describes here, we find the bridge based on our faith that will sustain us forever in Christ, provided by the greatest love we've ever known.

Prayer: *Lord: Help us desire you in our lives every day. Not only during advent or times of hardship, but each day. We have taken of the bread of life; now, oh Lord, help us seek ways to expand it in our walk with you every day. Amen.*

Coley Dize
Glen Dale UMC, Glen Dale, WV
cdize@outlook.com
Lay Speaker