

WITH GOD

Beyond the Rules,
Beneath the Formulas
...in His Presence



NEW LIFE CHRISTIAN CENTER
October 25, 2026

LIFE FROM GOD

Pastor Tommy McKiernan | Turlock
Pastor Jeremy Moore | Patterson

The next day the crowd that had stayed on the far shore saw that the disciples had taken the only boat, and they realized Jesus had not gone with them. Several boats from Tiberias landed near the place where the Lord had blessed the bread and the people had eaten. So when the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they got into the boats and went across to Capernaum to look for him. They found him on the other side of the lake and asked, "Rabbi, when did you get here?" Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth, you want to be with me because I fed you, not because you understood the miraculous signs. But don't be so concerned about perishable things like food. Spend your energy seeking the eternal life that the Son of Man can give you. For God the Father has given me the seal of his approval." John 6:22-29 (NLT)

1. Am I seeking the _____ or the _____?

They answered, "Show us a miraculous sign if you want us to believe in you. What can you do? After all, our ancestors ate manna while they journeyed through the wilderness! The Scriptures say, 'Moses gave them bread from heaven to eat.'" Jesus said, "I tell you the truth, Moses didn't give you bread from heaven. My Father did. And now he offers you the true bread from heaven. The true bread of God is the one who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." "Sir," they said, "give us that bread every day." Jesus replied, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry again. Whoever believes in me will never be thirsty." John 6:30-35

Many of his disciples said, "This is very hard to understand. How can anyone accept it?" Jesus was aware that his disciples were complaining, so he said to them, "Does this offend you?" John 6:60-61 (NLT)

*At this point many of his disciples turned away and deserted him.
John 6:66 (NLT)*

2. My circumstances don't _____ God's _____.

Then Jesus turned to the Twelve and asked, "Are you also going to leave?" Simon Peter replied, "Lord, to whom would we go? You have the words that give eternal life. We believe, and we know you are the Holy One of God." John 6:67-69

3. Every gift is an _____ of _____.

Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. James 1:17 (NIV)

If God never gave me anything else I was asking for, would knowing Him be enough?

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1. Am I seeking the GIFTS or the GIVER?

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*At this point many of his disciples turned away and deserted him.
John 6:66 (NLT)*

2. My circumstances don't DEFINE God's GOODNESS.

Then Jesus turned to the Twelve and asked, "Are you also going to leave?" Simon Peter replied, "Lord, to whom would we go? You have the words that give eternal life. We believe, and we know you are the Holy One of God." John 6:67-69

3. Every gift is an OVERFLOW of RELATIONSHIP.

Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. James 1:17 (NIV)

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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS
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CONNECT

How have services like Amazon Prime changed the way we think about waiting and getting what we want? Have you noticed those expectations influencing other areas of your life?

ENGAGE

What stood out to you most from the message, Life FROM God?

In John 6:26–27, Jesus challenged the crowd’s motivation for following Him. They had experienced His provision but were missing something greater.

Why do you think it’s so easy to become more focused on what God can do for us than on actually knowing Him?

GROW

In John 6:35, Jesus declares that He is the Bread of Life. What do you think Jesus wanted the crowd to understand about what He was offering them?

Many disciples turned away when Jesus’ teaching became difficult (John 6:60–66). How can unmet expectations or unanswered prayers influence the way we view God’s goodness and faithfulness?

Peter responded in John 6:68, “Lord, to whom would we go? You have the words that give eternal life.” What does his response teach us about a relationship with God that isn’t dependent on getting the answers we want?

James 1:17 reminds us that every good and perfect gift comes from God. How can gratitude help us move beyond appreciating God’s gifts to growing in our relationship with Him?

LEAD (YOURSELF)

What am I looking for from God, and am I allowing that desire to draw me closer to Him?

As you reflect this week, consider asking:

- Am I seeking God for who He is, or primarily for what I hope He will do?
- Is there an unanswered prayer or unmet expectation that has influenced how I see God’s goodness?
- How can I intentionally spend time WITH God this week without focusing only on what I need from Him?

Continue bringing your needs to God, but make room to simply be with Him.