1 - ***“I Am the bread of life”*** (John 6:35)

2 - **Context of John Chapter 6**

Jesus fed 5000 with 5 loaves and 2 fish. (vs. 1-14)

* Not only to be a ***“sign”*** to be believed (vs. 14, but to teach His disciples their roles. (Mark 6:36-41; Matthew 14:16; cf., Matthew 25:14-30; 1 Cor. 4:6)
	+ ***“Set before…”*** (Mark 6:41; Acts 17:3; 20:32; 2 Timothy 2:2)

The multitudes try to ***“take Him by force to make Him King”***. (vs. 15)

3 - **Context of John Chapter 6**

Jesus (1) sends His disciples across the Sea,
(2) disperses the crowd and then (3) goes up to the mountain to pray. (Matthew 14:23)

Jesus then comes to His disciples “walking on the sea… and they were frightened”. (vs. 19)

4 – **Context of John Chapter 6**

Jesus said, ***“It is I; do not be afraid”***.

In the Greek, what Jesus said, was ***“I am, do not be afraid.”***

Note in John 8:58 that the Jews understood this to be a claim to deity as God identified Himself to Moses in Exodus 3:14, ***“I AM WHO I AM”***.

5 - **Context of John Chapter 6**

“***The next day…”*** (vs. 22)

“*The crowd*” follows after Jesus and His disciples (vs. 23-25) and asks “*when did You get here*?”

Jesus knowing their hearts declares, “*Truly, truly, I say to you,* ***you seek Me, not because you saw signs****, but because* ***you ate of the loaves and were filled****. Do* ***not******work for the food which perishes****,* ***but*****(work) *for the food which endures to eternal life****, which the Son of Man will* ***give to you****, for on Him the Father, God, has set His seal*.” (vs. 26-27)

6 - **Context of John Chapter 6**

Picking up on Jesus mentioning “**work**”, they ask, *“what shall we do, that we may work the works of God?”* (vs. 28)

Jesus’ response begins with having faith in who He truly is. “…*believe in Him whom He has sent*.” (vs. 29)

* + Jesus later said, “***unless you believe*** *that* ***I am*** *(He), you will die in your sins*.” (John 8:24; cf., 13:19)
	+ Faith is a ***“work of God”***.

7 - **Context of John Chapter 6**

The Jews have the audacity to ask of Jesus;
*“****What then do You do for a sign****, so that we may see, and believe You?* ***What work do You perform****?”* (vs. 30; 1:50; 2:11; 3:2; 6:14; 20:30-31)

They had something in mind: daily meals **like manna** in the wilderness. (vs. 31, note vs. 34, ***“always give us this bread”;*** cf., 4:15)

Jesus contrasts the fleshly with the spiritual referring to the ***“true bread out of heaven.”*** (vs. 32)

8 – **Context of John Chapter 6**

***“Our fathers ate the manna in the wilderness…”***
(vs. 31) ***“…always give us this bread…”*** (vs. 34)

1. The “fathers” weren’t satisfied with manna. (Numbers 11:4-6; 21:4-5)...
2. God let them be hungry to learn to depend on Him. (Deuteronomy 8:3)
3. They were to learn, *“****man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by everything that proceeds out of the mouth of the Lord****.”* (Deuteronomy 8:3)

9 - **“*I AM The bread of life*”** (vs. 35)

The first of Jesus’ 7 ***“I AM”*** statements.

1. *“****I AM*** *the* ***bread of life****”* (6:35)
2. *“****I AM*** *the* ***light of the world****”* (8:12)
3. “***I AM*** *the* ***door of the sheep****”* (10:7)
4. *“****I AM*** *the* ***good shepherd****”* (10:11)
5. *“****I AM*** *the* ***resurrection and the life****”* (11:25)
6. *“****I AM*** *the* ***way****, the* ***truth****, and the* ***life****”* (14:6)
7. *“****I AM*** *the* ***true vine****”* (15:1)

10 - **“*I AM The bread of life*”** (vs. 35)

After their immediate request, Jesus makes it clear that He isn’t speaking of literal bread… “***I AM the bread of life”.***

* ***“Bread out of heaven…”*** (vs. 33, 41, 42, 50, 51, 58)

Jesus’ invitation is to ***“come to Me”*** and ***“believe in Me”.*** (Matthew 11:28; John 5:40; 6:44, 65)

**11 - “*I AM The bread of life*”** (vs. 35)

What is to be done with the ***“bread of life”***?

* It is to be consumed… (“***Eat***” and “***drink***”)
* Literal or figurative?
* God asks His servants to consume His words. (Ezekiel 3:1-4; Jeremiah 15:15-16; Psalms 119:103; Psalms 19:10)

**12 - “*I AM The bread of life*”** (vs. 35)

To be consumed are the words of the bread of life:

* **Drawn by the Father** (vs. 44)… How? “‘*They shall all be* ***taught of God****’. Everyone who has* ***heard*** *and* ***learned*** *from the Father* ***comes to Me***.” (vs. 45)
* We “***eat***” and “***drink***” of Jesus when we “***abide***” in Him and He in us. (Fellowship)
* “***Difficult***” words? Why? (1 Cor. 2:14-3:3; John 12:37-42)
* ***“The words I have spoken to you are spirit and are life.”*** (vs. 63)
* To whom shall we go for the ***“words of eternal life”***? (vs. 66)

**13 - What are we to do with the bread of life?**

1. Work diligently for it, both in our knowledge and understanding (2 Timothy 2:15) and in our application of it. (Matthew 7:24-27)
2. Consume it frequently, consistently and persistently. (1 Timothy 4:6; 1 Peter 2:2)
3. Maintain our spiritual appetite.
4. Urgently obey it!